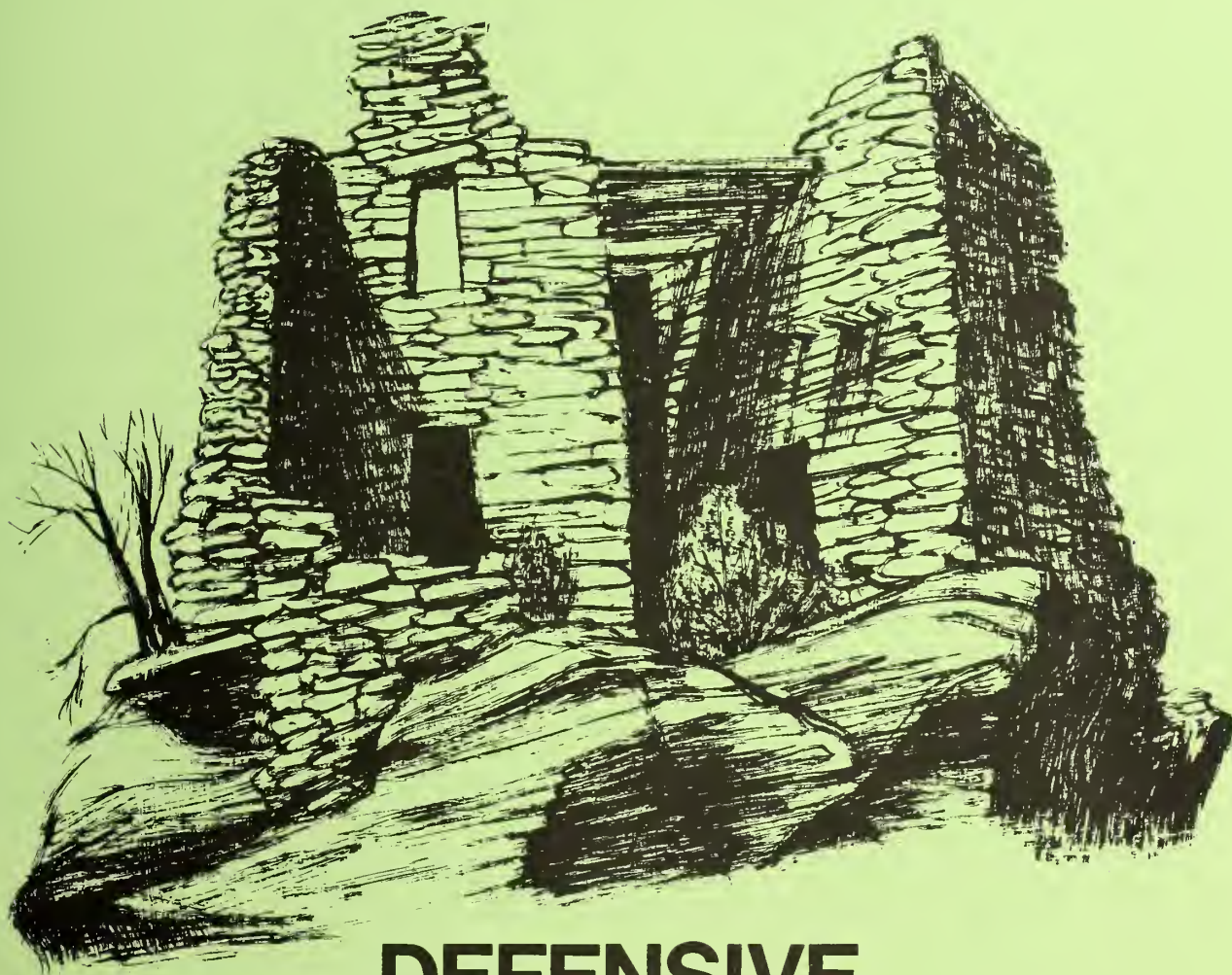


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# **DEFENSIVE SITES OF DINETAH**

**Margaret A. Powers    Byron P. Johnson**

**CULTURAL RESOURCES SERIES NO. 2, 1987**



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE  
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2. Margaret A. Powers and Byron P. Johnson. *Defensive Sites of Dinetah.* 1987.

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# Defensive Sites Of Dinétah

By Margaret A. Powers and Byron P. Johnson

1987

United States Department of the Interior  
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Albuquerque District  
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*To Harry L. Hadlock (1917-1983)*

*and*

*Sally Hadlock*

*who promoted the recognition and preservation  
of the sites of Dinetah*



## Volume Introduction

**T**his second volume of New Mexico BLM's Cultural Resource Publication Series focuses attention on a dramatic class of archeological properties – the Navajo Refugee sites. Dating between A.D. 1700 and A.D. 1750, these remarkably well-preserved masonry sites are often perched on boulders, constructed at the edges of mesas, or built on easily defended canyon walls or in rock shelters.

Research carried out by the authors was made possible by a matching funds grant by the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division. The immediate result of this study has been the nomination of 48 refugee phase sites to the National Register of Historic Places. However, numerous long-term benefits are also accruing. The Bureau of Land Management is utilizing the inventory data as a basis for developing specific management and protection plans within the Farmington Resource Area Resource Management Plan. Inspired by the findings of this report, the Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, and the San Juan Archaeological Society consummated a cooperative management agreement for the patrolling and monitoring of these vulnerable resources by volunteers.

This Navajo Refugee site project exemplifies the type of cooperation needed to successfully understand and protect cultural resources. Federal and state government agencies, professional contract archeologists, and volunteers from the local community all worked together to survey, record, study, and protect these significant ruins.

This publication summarizes what is known about the condition of the Navajo Refugee sites in the Largo/Gobernador region in northwest New Mexico. The distribution, condition, and uniqueness of this class of sites is only now being appreciated. An understanding of the Gobernador Phase of early Navajo settlement will shed light on the transition of Navajo settlement and subsistence strategies from the time of their entry into New Mexico to more modern adaptations. The Bureau of Land Management will now strive to implement the study's recommendations for improving site protection and preservation. It is hoped that continued program support will allow us to fully manage these spectacular sites in a manner they so richly deserve.

Stephen L. Fosberg, Series Editor

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# Preface

**T**he National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 celebrated its 20th anniversary last year. One of its basic precepts is that the task of preserving the physical remains of this country's heritage requires a broad-based partnership among all levels of government as well as the private sector.

This project is an excellent example of this partnership in action. We are pleased to have assisted in the funding of the survey and nomination. We also greatly appreciate the efforts of all agencies and individuals who have worked and are continuing to work to protect these sites. Such efforts are essential to ensure that these sites are preserved for future enjoyment.

The archeological sites described in this publication tell us a great deal about the period of early historic settlement in New Mexico. Records exist for 18th century sites along the Rio Grande River in New Mexico, but there is very little documentation of such Native American settlements in the northwestern part of the state. These sites represent an important part of New Mexico's heritage.

Unfortunately, pueblito sites are being vandalized at an increasing rate. Continuing damage of these sites on state lands draws attention to the need for strengthening the State Cultural Properties Act and provide penalties equivalent to the federal Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979.

We hope this publication will draw more attention to the need for a sustained commitment for the protection of the archeological resources of the Dinétah.

Thomas W. Merlan, State Historic Preservation Officer  
Historic Preservation Division, Office of Cultural Affairs

# Forward

**B**ecause the Navajo people are highly visible in the Four Corners area and on the Navajo Reservation, there is a tendency to forget that these people, the Diné, and their culture have been in existence and have lived in this area since prehistoric times. The significance of early Navajo sites has been recognized only periodically and the early phases of Navajo occupation are frequently neglected in cultural overviews and archeological research.

The preparation of a National Register nomination and the writing of this volume was funded by a grant from the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division's matching grant-in-aid program to the San Juan County Museum, Division of Conservation Archaeology. The project focused on one period, the Gobernador Phase, of early Navajo settlement and interaction. This volume represents the most recent and comprehensive study of Navajo Refugee sites, or pueblitos, conducted to date. It contains a summary of the work completed sporadically over a period of 75 years.

The Refugee sites are a truly unique phenomenon and are found only in the northwestern quarter of New Mexico. The standing walls, intact roofs, and spectacular settings make the sites attractive not only for their information potential but also for their beauty and visual impact.

Unfortunately the sites are extremely fragile. Adjoining walls are abutted rather than tied and masonry elements often form columns rather than overlapping one another for strength. The roofs are deteriorating with exposure to weather, and the weight of rocks and dirt on the primary beams is causing sagging which may lead to eventual collapse. It is estimated that within five years many of the sites may be reduced to rubble mounds if emergency stabilization is not completed. At a minimum these structures should be recorded in detail to document their architectural attributes.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) demonstrated interest in the sites in the mid-1970s when it sponsored the stabilization and, in some cases, partial reconstruction of 10 pueblitos. Nine of these sites are located in the Largo-Gobernador area and are included in this study. The tenth is located 30 miles to the south, near Pueblo Pintado. Stabilization crews replaced mortar and chinking stones, capped walls with cement, implanted rebar in the walls, applied wood preservatives and moisture barriers to the roofs, and provided better drainage in and around rooms to lessen erosion and water damage. The purpose was to protect the sites both from environmental damage as well as visitor impacts. At the nine Largo-Gobernador sites, the BLM installed interpretative signs which explain the history and function of these properties. One fortunate benefit of the interpretation is that the presence of the signs has discouraged vandalism and abuse of the sites.

Currently, BLM interest in the Refugee sites is at an all-time high as a result of the preparation of this volume and the listing of the sites on the National Register of Historic Places. Inclusion of the sites in a recently completed planning program has also stimulated management interest and concern over the future of the sites. The Farmington Resource Management Plan (RMP) identified 34 sites on BLM land and four sites on state land for special management attention. These sites are now protected in six Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and 20 Special Management Areas (SMAs).

The RMP also provides guidance and recommendations for future protection of the sites. These proposed actions include off-road vehicle closure or limitations, prohibition of new surface disturbance, structure maintenance and evaluation for stabilization at additional sites, installation of additional signs and publication of interpretive brochures, acquisition of state and private in-holdings within the established SMAs, and completion of detailed records meeting the Historic American Building Survey standards. If adequate funding is obtained, these actions will prolong the life of many of the sites and will contribute to building a substantive data base containing site attributes and architectural details.

To date, the Refugee sites have been a cultural treasure recognized by only a few professional and amateur archeologists. By making this publication available to a wide audience in both the professional and lay communities, we hope that the significance of these sites will be appreciated by more than a privileged few. We anticipate that this interest will help the BLM actively manage and protect these unique resources for future generations.

LouAnn Jacobson  
Farmington Resource Area Archeologist



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**T**his publication was completed in two phases: writing, peer review, and assembly were completed by the DCA; and layout design and printing by the BLM. As a result, many individuals and various agencies were helpful in furnishing information and guidance during the course of this project.

## Phase I

The New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, which initiated the project and shared in the funding, contributed substantially. Tom Merlan and the HPD staff were always available to answer questions. Special thanks are due to Nancy Wood who was our primary contact and assisted from the beginning of the project, during the nomination process, and finally with her comments on the draft report.

The Farmington office of the Bureau of Land Management was generous with its time and supportive of our efforts. Manton Botsford and LouAnn Jacobson offered pertinent comments on the draft copy of this report and LouAnn furnished guidance toward the preparation of the thematic nomination.

Site information was gathered from various sources including the Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe, San Juan College in Farmington, the Bureau of Land Management in Farmington, the Navajo Tribe in Window Rock, and the Salmon Ruins Museum and Library in Farmington. Special thanks to Klara Kelley for providing the "Land Claims" site forms and to the Laboratory of Anthropology for the file searches and the LA site forms.

Friends such as Patricia Hancock, Michael Kennedy, June-el Piper and Penelope Whitten volunteered time during fieldwork and Penelope later reviewed the draft report and offered suggestions.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank Leta Yazzie for her patience and word processing magic.

Margaret A. Powers  
Byron P. Johnson  
Division of Conservation Archeology



## Phase II

Greatest credit must be given to Margaret A. Powers and Byron Johnson who completed extensive records searches, field exams, and detailed recordation prior to the writing of this volume and the preparation of an outstanding National Register nomination. Peggy and Byron gave many of their weekends and much of their spare time to the project. Their initiative and enthusiasm are evident in the final product.

Several persons were instrumental in preparation of the BLM publication. Ralph Leon designed the front and back covers and Don Boyer coordinated with the Government Printing Office to get the document printed for distribution. Vera Bee and Ron Purcell skillfully drafted all of the site maps and figures, completing a tedious assignment without complaint. Kathy Ollom patiently retyped the entire text to overcome the incompatibility of word processors. Marilu Waybourn provided technical editing services and gave much needed guidance in getting the text and figures camera ready. Lu also designed the document layout and we believe her efforts have resulted in a publication style that surpasses the conventional government documents we are accustomed to.

Stephen Fosberg  
LouAnn Jacobson  
Bureau of Land Management

# Abstract

This study formed the basis for the acceptance of 48 Navajo Refugee Sites onto the National Register of Historic Places in January of 1987. In addition to forming the basis of a thematic nomination, *Defensive Sites of Dinetah* synthesizes previous research on Navajo Refugee sites and locates and records current conditions of the properties.

Early investigators believed that these sites were built and occupied exclusively by Pueblo Indians fleeing Spanish retaliation during the reconquest of New Mexico in 1692. The present manuscript demonstrates that this is only partially correct. Pueblo refugees did flee to the northwest into the traditional Navajo homeland, or Dinetah. The Pueblo and Navajo people lived together and intermarried for some 20 years after the reconquest. However, by A.D. 1715 attacks by the Indians from the north became the principal threat to the Largo/Gobernador area residents. As a result, inhabitants built many sites on mesa tops, cliff faces, or on the top of large boulders, not to hide from Spaniards, but to protect themselves from marauding Utes.

The authors develop a site classification scheme based on such attributes as topographic location, architectural features, room size, and the presence or absence of forked-stick hogans. Seventeen of the 48 sites had been tree-ring dated. Dendrochronological evidence suggests a progression of Type 1 to Type 3 sites from A.D. 1690 to A.D. 1750.

The locational preferences and defensive strategies employed at these sites evolved through time. Type 1 sites were located in open country along major canyons. Later site types were situated at the edge of mesa tops, on elevated sandstone formations, or on canyon bottoms with good views of access routes and defensible rooms perched on large sandstone boulders.

Research confirms that Navajo Refugee sites are restricted in their geographical distribution. They are present in a rough north-south band, 10 to 15 miles wide and 40 miles long, from Navajo Reservoir in the north to Lybrook in the south.

Finally, this manuscript identifies critical problems of vandalism and site preservation. Provided adequate funding is obtained to stabilize these sites, their study can fill in major gaps in our understanding of Navajo archeology. Such research topics include the nature of Navajo subsistence during the Gobernador Phase, settlement and mobility strategies, social organization and demography, defensive aspects of Navajo-Spanish and Navajo-Ute warfare, architectural evolution of forked-stick hogans and pueblitos, and social relations between Navajo, Spanish, Pueblos, and Utes.



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PHOTO 1 : THE CITADEL - LA 55828



## CHAPTER ONE

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

In July of 1985 the Division of Conservation Archaeology (DCA) of the San Juan County Museum Association was awarded a matching funds grant to study Gobernador Phase sites in the Largo/Gobernador Region of northwestern New Mexico by the State of New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (HPD).

The intention of this study was to develop a synthesis of previous research, locate and inventory Gobernador Phase sites, and prepare a thematic National Register nomination of selected sites. The National Register nomination was completed and on January 21, 1987, the thematic nomination of 48 Gobernador Phase sites was accepted to the National Register of Historic Places.

### Environmental Description

The project is located (Figure 1) in an area of flat mesas and deep canyons that drain to the northwest and into the San Juan River between Blanco, New Mexico, and the Colorado state line. The typical canyon profile is irregular with beds of sandstone, which have exhibited varying degrees of resistance to downcutting, forming benches with short talus slopes. Most of the mesa tops are 400 to 500 feet above the major canyon floors which range in elevation from 5,800 to 6,500 ft.

Soils in the project area are classified in the Order of Entisols and characteristically display little evidence of soil horizon development because they are in a state of active erosion (Morain 1981). The major associations are the Travessilla-Rock Land, which occurs as thin deposits of silty eolian materials or gravelly alluvium over much of the upland area, and the Werlow-Fruitland-Turley, which is forming in stratified alluvium of mixed origin in the bottoms of some of the major drainages.

Vegetation in the Largo/Gobernador areas belongs to the woodland biome with juniper-piñon and riparian associations (Castetter 1956). Flora of the area may be divided into three major zones – mesa tops, benches, and canyon bottoms. The mesa tops exhibit a fairly dense covering of juniper (*Juniperus* sp.), piñon pine (*Pinus edulis*), and in some areas extensive flats of sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*). Yucca (both narrow and wide) (*Yucca angustissima* and *Y. baccata*) and prickly pear (*Opuntia* sp.) are also found, but in lesser numbers. Mesa benches are mainly covered by sagebrush with some Mormon tea (*Ephedra viridis*) and a few juniper or piñon pine. The canyon bottoms have a dense cover of rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*), saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), sagebrush, and occasional stands of cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*). The highest elevation in the project area, near the junction of La Jara and Pueblito canyons, is in a transition zone where ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*) begin to appear.

A combination of two methods was used to gain some insight into past climatic conditions, tree-ring chronologies and historic meteorological records. First, tree-ring data were used to indicate annual climatic deviations from the mean and second, the meteorological data were used to define the mean in terms of annual precipitation. Chronologies constructed of ring series from many individual trees provide data on annual variability in rainfall and temperature during the time spans encompassed by the chronologies (Dean and Robinson 1977). Standard deviations of tree-ring indices were plotted on a graph. A three decade moving average was used to smooth the variations and provide a more usable portrayal of long-term variability (Figure 2). Temperature and rainfall for the century following 1680, as shown on the graph, hovered extremely close to the mean. Meteorological data (annual precipitation) are



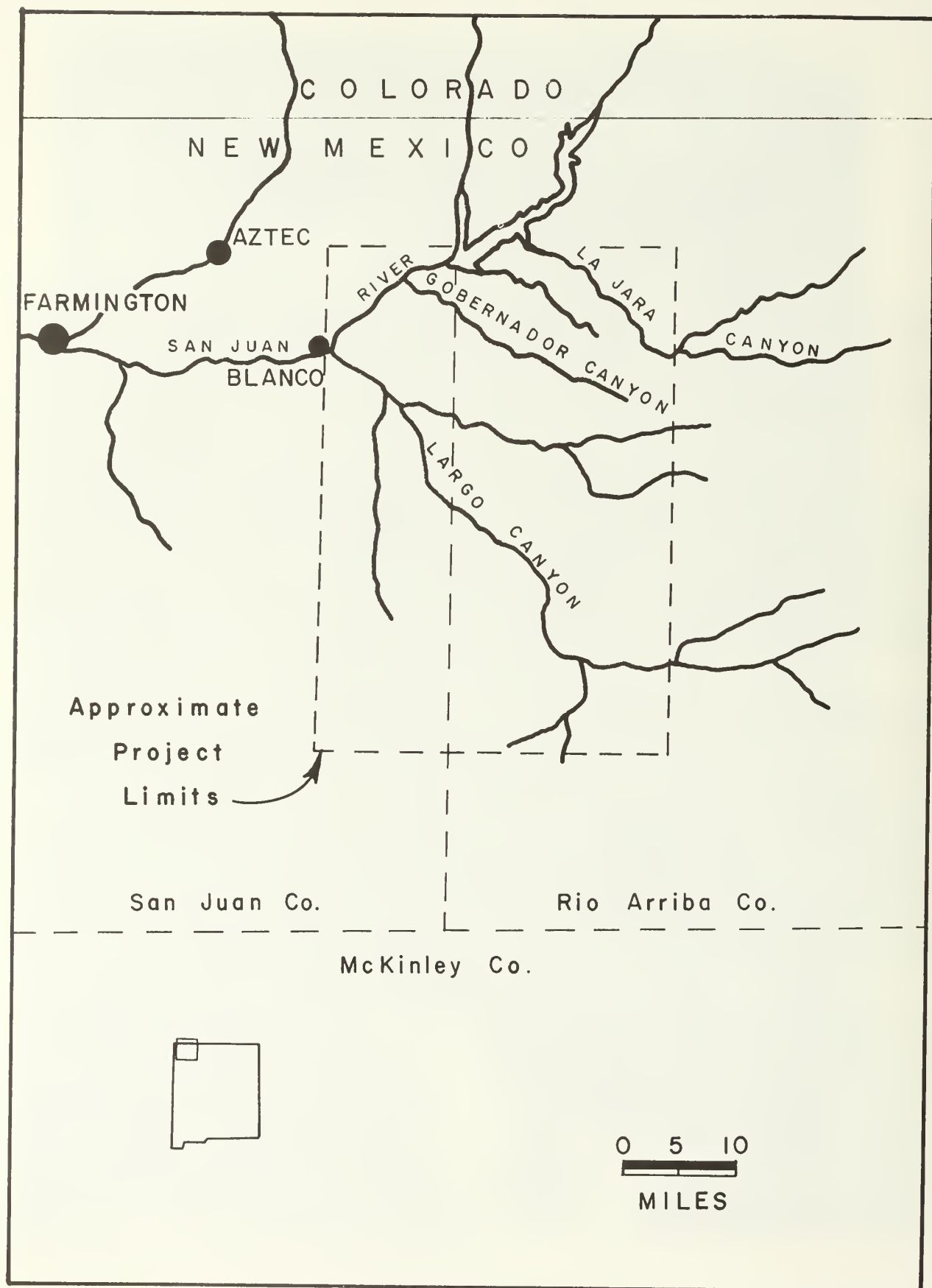


FIGURE 1  
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STANDARD DEVIATIONS OF TREE-RING INDICES  
 NAVAJO RESERVOIR / GOBERNADOR  
 ( three decade moving average )

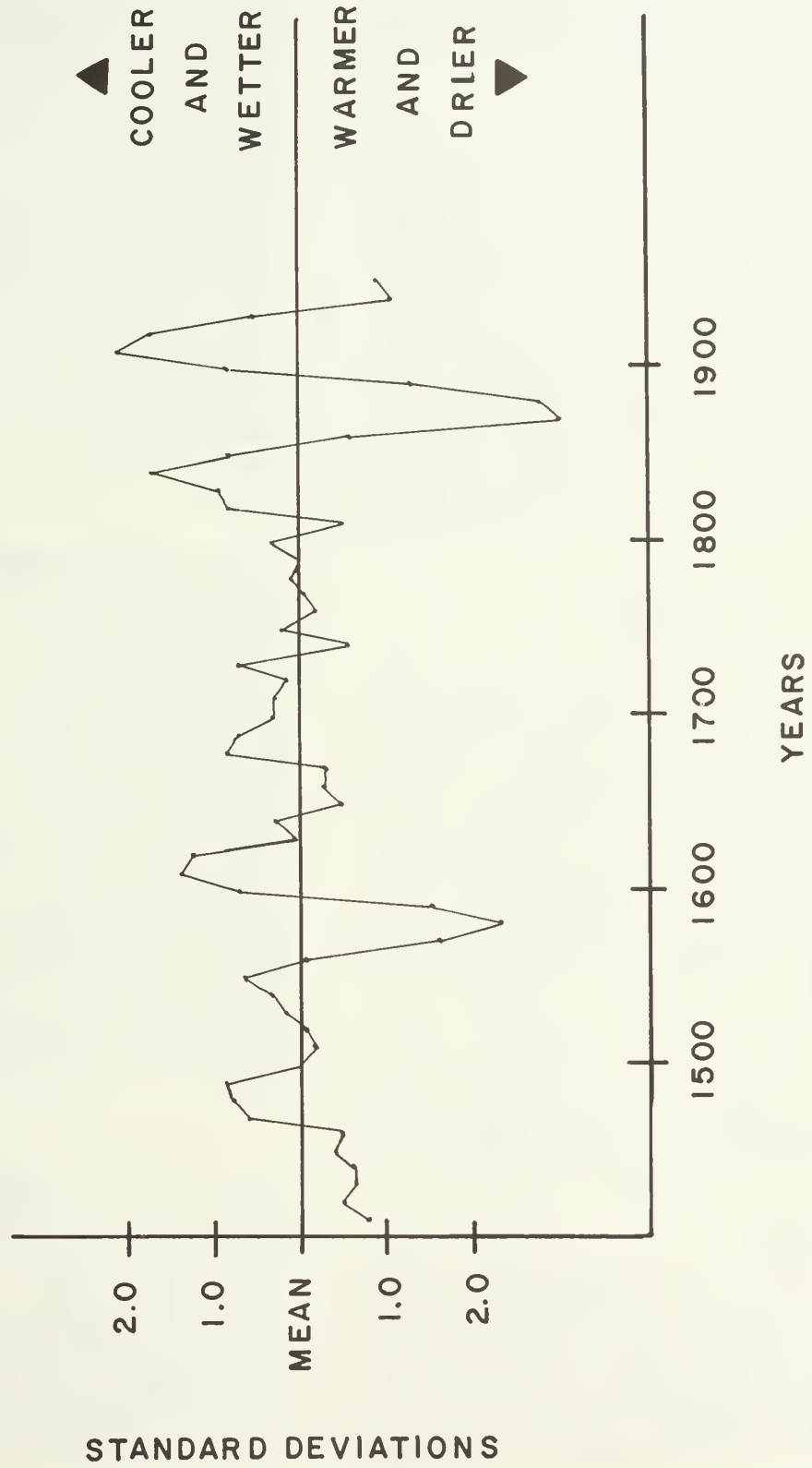


FIGURE 2

available from two stations in the project area, Blanco and Gobernador, New Mexico (New Mexico State Engineer Office 1956). The precipitation was measured during the 1940s and '50s. Average annual precipitation during this time varied from 9.43 inches at Blanco to 12.37 inches at Gobernador.

Blanco lies near the northwest corner of the project area and Gobernador is situated in the northeast portion. Conveniently the elevation at these two stations, a major factor in determining precipitation amounts, closely approximates the range of elevation over the entire project area (5,600 ft. at Blanco and 6,600 ft. at Gobernador). The graph (Figure 2) indicates that the climate was warmer and drier during the 1940s and '50s by approximately one standard deviation and should indicate a long-term climatic mean which is somewhat cooler and wetter. Since the 1680 to 1780 period is close to the mean it indicates average annual precipitation somewhat above the 9.43 to 12.37 inches mentioned above.

## Cultural Overview

This study focuses on a period in Navajo history known as the Gobernador Phase and on a region known as Dinétah. The Gobernador Phase began with the Pueblo Revolt in 1680 and ended about 100 years later. The term Dinétah usually refers to the area occupied by the Navajo Indians during this period (ca. 1680-1780). Although the core area of late 17th to early 18th century Navajo occupation is well-defined, the geographic limits of that occupation are not well-established. Thus the boundaries of Dinétah shift as archeological data are acquired.

The following overview will deal with two aspects of Navajo history: the role and importance of Dinétah in Navajo mythology, and Navajo history based on archeological and historical records.

## Mythology

Dinétah is the Navajo equivalent of the Holy Land and it is here that the Navajo creation story is focused. The geography and place names of Dinétah reflect its role in both the creation story and the clan migration legends. It contains two of the Sacred Mountains of the Navajo world – Huerfano Mountain on the west and

Gobernador Knob on the east. Gobernador Knob is a principal mountain in the Navajo Blessingway Chant. It is considered the birthplace of Changing Woman and in Navajo clan traditions. Dinétah also contains several other sacred or respected places (Van Valkenburgh 1974a) – Salt Point, Mesa Quartado (Harris Mesa), Delgadito Canyon, River Junction (now inundated by Navajo Lake), San Rafael Canyon, and Big Water (lower La Jara Canyon). These places are important in various clan traditions. River Junction is also important in both the Blessingway and Nightway ceremonies and is associated with the Navajo Hero Twins, the sons of Changing Woman (Van Valkenburgh 1974a). Some of the Navajo chantways may have developed or may have become more elaborate during the Gobernador Period, perhaps because contacts among ethnic groups became more intense.

## History

The Navajos probably appeared in the Dinétah (Largo/Gobernador) region sometime between A.D. 1300, when the Anasazi are thought to have vacated northwest New Mexico, and the time of the Pueblo Revolt in 1680. Some recent studies have suggested that the Navajo have inhabited the area since at least the 1500s and possibly much earlier. Excavations by the Office of Contract Archaeology, University of New Mexico, on the Cortez CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline route in Blanco Canyon have produced Navajo dates of 1550±55 and 1590±55 (Marshall 1985). These sites are near the southwest edge of the project area. In the La Plata Valley, which lies approximately 30 miles to the northwest, several sites which appear to be early Navajo have been excavated by DCA. Although the analysis is not complete, various dating methods have produced a range of dates from A.D. 1350 to A.D. 1675 (Hancock et al. 1987).

The late 17th and early 18th centuries in the Southwest were times of turmoil and social disruption. In 1680, decades of friction between the Spanish and the Pueblo Indians erupted in the Pueblo Revolt (Sando 1979; Simmons 1979) when a union of Pueblos and Navajos successfully ousted the Spanish from northern New Mexico. During the ensuing decade, traditional factionalism reasserted itself and hostilities between groups of pueblos resumed (Simmons 1979: 186-188; Schroeder 1972: 56-57). With the resumption of Spanish control in 1692,

members of various pueblos fled to the Hopi Mesas in Arizona, to other pueblos, or to the Navajo territory (Brugge 1983: 491). Both Jemez and Santa Clara (Tewa) people are reported to have joined the Navajo (Carlson 1965: 57; Brugge 1983: 493), bringing with them cultural practices (both Puebloan and Spanish) that fused with traditional Navajo ways to provide the roots of modern Navajo culture. The influence of the Puebloan refugees can be seen in the pottery, the architectural forms, and the rock art of the Dinétah region. For example, Gháá'ask'idii, the Humpbacked God, who bears a strong resemblance to the Puebloan fertility figure, Kokopelli, is prominent among the rock art representations. Pueblo and Spanish captives from the Navajo raids and Pueblo refugees from the reconquest also influenced Navajo culture. They were probably the founders of several Navajo clans, for example the Zuni and Tewa clans, the Black Sheep clan, the Coyote Pass-Jemez clan, and the Mexican clan (Van Valkenburgh 1974b: 207-208).

The Navajos raided Pueblo and Spanish settlements into the early 1700s. Women and children were taken captive, livestock was stolen, and the Spanish sent expeditions into Dinétah to retaliate. Fields and houses were burned, captives taken, and former Spanish and Pueblo captives and stock recovered (Reeve 1958). By about 1715 Ute attacks had become the overwhelming threat to all communities in northern New Mexico and Navajo depredations on the Spanish ceased (Schroeder, 1972: 61; Reeve 1958). Trading with the pueblos probably resumed at this time. Franciscan missionaries travelled into Dinétah to preach and convert. The influence of the missionaries, the pressure of Utes, and possibly a drought in the late 1740s eventually led the Navajo to move to the south and west of Dinétah (Reeve 1959). These shifts were apparently accompanied by a rejection of many Puebloan and non-traditional Navajo practices (Brugge 1972).

## Previous Research

The first non-Indian people to find the ruins of the Gobernador Period were probably Hispanic shepherds and ranchers. Their names, and dates from the late 1800s to the early 1900s, are inscribed on sandstone crags, on pueblito roof beams, and near panels of rock art. A.V. Kidder was the first anthropologist known to have visited the sites. In 1912 he visited Three Corn Ruin, Old Fort Ruin, and

another unidentified site in Largo Canyon. He inferred that the sites were built by Pueblo refugees from the Spanish reconquest of New Mexico and that the builders of the sites were in contact with Navajos (Kidder 1920: 327-328). In 1915 Earl Morris had excavated or collected material from 17 sites in the vicinity of Gobernador Canyon (Carlson 1965). Kidder (1920: 329) also noted that in 1916 Nels C. Nelson of the American Museum of Natural History, probably acting on information obtained from Earl Morris, observed ruins similar to those Kidder had seen, but smaller, in Largo Canyon and in other parts of the Gobernador area.

Virtually no work occurred for the next 20 years, but archeologists were again active from 1934 to 1941. In 1934 two amateur archeologists, C.O. Erwin and M.W. Kelly, recorded 11 sites in Frances and Gobernador canyons and collected tree-ring samples (Stallings 1937: 3) for the Laboratory of Anthropology of the Museum of New Mexico (Robinson, Harrill, and Warren 1974). In 1938 E.T. Hall of Columbia University recorded four sites (LA 2135-2138) and collected tree-ring samples (Hall 1951). In 1941 Dorothy Keur, also of Columbia University, recorded sites in Gobernador, La Jara, Frances, Pueblito, Muñoz, and Carrizo (Compañero) canyons. In addition, she excavated 19 hogans and two pueblitos of the Gobernador Period. She also collected tree-ring samples (Keur 1944). The same year E.T. Hall and W.S. Stallings collected additional tree-ring specimens from the Gobernador area (LA 2297) and from a pueblito on Largo Canyon, Tapacito Ruin (LA 2298) (Robinson, Harrill, and Warren 1974: 80, 83). Work in the Largo Canyon area also increased in the late 1930s. Sites in Largo Canyon, which had been noted as early as 1916, were visited by Elizabeth Murphy of the School of American Research, by Richard Van Valkenburgh in 1937 and by Malcolm F. Farmer in 1938 (Farmer 1939).

The 1950s marked another period of research in Navajo archeology. Sites recorded by Van Valkenburgh and Farmer were re-examined by surveyors for the Navajo Tribe as part of the Navajo Land Claim. The Navajo Land Claim surveys recorded hogans and pueblitos (fortified crags) throughout Dinétah. Most importantly, the surveyors obtained tree-ring samples from most of the fortified crags. These dates, which cluster between 1715 and 1750, are the basis for claiming that most of the pueblitos were built as defenses against the Utes rather than the Spanish and for arguing that they were built



primarily by Navajos (or Navajo and Pueblo Indians who had intermarried) not by Pueblo refugees. During the late '50s, the San Juan Archaeological Society, a local amateur archeological group, recorded many Gobernador Period pueblitos which had just been made accessible by oil and gas roads. R. Gwinn Vivian completed a study of Navajo sites on Chacra Mesa to the south of Largo Canyon (Vivian 1960). Vivian correlated the archeological and historical data and presented one of the first syntheses of this period. In the Navajo Reservoir District, many Navajo hogan sites and some pueblitos were recorded (Dittert, Hester, and Eddy 1961) and excavated (Hester and Shiner 1963). Hester (1962) used the accumulating data on Navajo sites to plot the movement of the Navajo across the Southwest.

In 1962 Roy L. Carson and archeologists from the Navajo Reservoir Project relocated some of the sites excavated by Earl Morris. Carson then published the results of the excavations using Morris' field notes and collections at the University of Colorado Museum. Carlson's study remains the most important single publication on the pueblitos of the Gobernador Period.

Between 1970 and 1975 several studies of Gobernador Period sites were undertaken. In 1972 John P. Wilson of the Museum of New Mexico revisited Tapacito Ruin (LA 2298), remapped it, and obtained additional tree-ring specimens (Wilson and Warren 1974). In 1973 the BLM (Enloe et al. 1973) surveyed several tracts in the Gobernador area and recommended that an area around San Rafael Canyon be designated as the Gobernador Archaeological District. This proposal echoed those made earlier by Homer Hastings of the National Park Service and by the San Juan Archaeological Society to make San Rafael Canyon into a State or National Monument. They also called for the sites to be protected from the impacts of oil and gas development.

In 1974 J. Loring Haskell (1975) completed a dissertation study involving excavation of a pueblito and hogan site and mapping of three other pueblitos around Crow Canyon. Haskell attempted to demonstrate aspects of the residence pattern, pastoralism, and world view of Navajos during the Gobernador Period.

Between 1973 and 1975 the BLM sponsored the stabilization of eight pueblitos. Shaft House (LA 5660) was stabilized by the National Park Service under contract to the BLM while

Frances Canyon (LA 2135), Tapacito (LA 2298), Simon Canyon (LA 5047), Largo School (LA 5657), Hooded Fireplace (LA 5662), Split Rock (LA 5664), and Christmas Tree (LA 11097) were stabilized by a BLM team.

Aside from a few records resulting from oil and gas surveys, no archeological work has been performed on Gobernador Period pueblitos since Haskell's study. The current nomination and study is the result of a 1985-86 reconnaissance project sponsored by the Division of Conservation Archaeology of the San Juan County Museum Association and the Historic Preservation Division of the State of New Mexico (Powers and Johnson 1986). During this project, 76 sites were visited, 49 were fully documented, and 48 are included in the thematic nomination and the body of this report. A complete project list of 102 recorded and unrecorded sites has been furnished to the HPD as a supplement to this report. The supplement includes specific site information for unrecorded sites which was collected during the course of the project.

## **Methods**

The present study had two major objectives. The first was to expand and update existing knowledge, site records, and management information for Gobernador Phase sites. A second objective was the preparation of a thematic National Register nomination including all of the sites selected for the study.

Background information on Gobernador Phase sites was collected from many sources. The initial list of sites came from a record search at the Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe. As additional information was obtained from various sources the list began to grow. Many sites were added from the Navajo Land Claims files in Window Rock, Arizona, and others from the site records at the Farmington office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Several sites were added through an archival search at the Salmon Ruins Museum Library which holds the records of the San Juan Archaeological Society. Reports, field notes, and stabilization records resulting from work discussed under the heading "Previous Research" were collected and the information used to begin building a file for each site.

Land ownership was determined from land status maps furnished by the BLM. Names and



addresses of owners of private land were obtained from records at the Rio Arriba County Courthouse in Española, New Mexico. Due to the limited time and financial considerations a maximum of 50 sites were to be selected for study and nomination. The selection was based partly on criteria furnished by the HPD and partly on information collected in the project site files. The HPD requested that sites located on state and private lands be given priority. Additionally, all sites which had been stabilized by the BLM and other sites which seemed to possess unusual architectural features were given preference. As fieldwork progressed and previously unrecorded sites were located, some of these sites were added to the list because of their excellent condition in addition to the considerations listed above.

Margaret Powers and Byron Johnson began the fieldwork in August of 1985 and made some 40 trips into the project area during the next 12 months. Every large boulder and promontory was searched with field glasses during trips to known site locations. It soon became possible to spot sites from a fair distance due to characteristic vegetation. For example, grass growing on the top of a large sandstone boulder was a giveaway. As sites were recorded they were

checked off the list, but the list continued to grow as new sites were located and added.

Each selected site, after being field located, was accurately plotted on USGS quadrangles. The Laboratory of Anthropology site forms were completed and data required for the National Register nomination were recorded. Special note was made of vandalism, evidence that tree ring core samples had been collected, the condition of stabilized structures, and future stabilization needs. Two maps, drawn to scale, were produced at each site. The first displays an overall map with site boundaries and associated features. The second shows the major structure in detail and specific architectural features. Photo-documentation included both color slides and black and white prints of the site in visual context within the local setting as well as various views showing site condition and architectural details. The black and white negatives and duplicates of selected color slides will be curated at the Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The remaining color slides and duplicates of the negatives used in the nomination will be curated at the San Juan County Archaeological Research Center (Salmon Ruin) in Farmington, New Mexico.



PHOTO 2 : FRANCES CANYON RUIN - LA 2135

SPANISH STYLE HOODED FIREPLACE



## CHAPTER TWO

# RESULTS

### Sites of the Study

Because Dinetah was a frontier area inhabited by Navajos and Pueblo refugees and held against retaliatory Spanish expeditions and Ute-Comanche raids, defensive sites typify the architecture of Dinetah. They take on several different forms and occupy various topographic settings.

### Defensive Strategies

The defensive strategies basically encompassed two elements, advance warning and regulation of access, both depending on the location of the site. The location of sites at canyon mouths, on high buttes, and on mesa rims allowed for substantial views of the likely approach routes down the major valleys and across wide expanses of the mesa tops. Often these positions appear to be visually linked. Loopholes, small observation ports in the walls, are aligned to provide views not only of access routes but also of surrounding sites.

The location of sites also served to regulate access. Nearly all the sites in this study are situated on steep-sided boulders or crags and provide a natural fortification which could easily be enhanced by various methods. Areas which may have been climbed were blocked by wall segments or in the case of crevices, roofed with logs. Entryways were secured by using deadend "entries," serpentine passages, narrowed entrances, single points of access to room complexes, and removable logs for bridges and ladders. Loopholes and encircling defensive walls also helped to limit access by providing a protected area for shooting arrows at approaching raiders. A classic example occurs at Shaft House (LA 5660) where a loophole points directly at the hatchway in the tower used to reach the upper level.

### Architecture

The architecture of Dinetah includes two distinct types – forked-stick hogans and pueblitos. Both forms were most common during the Gobernador Phase although in areas south and west of Dinetah, they persist until the late 18th century (Vivian 1960; Brugge 1983:494).

Pueblitos are typically constructed of a two-story outer masonry wall and, in the case of the latter types, conform more or less to the shape of the outcrop on which they rest. The space is then partitioned by abutting interior crosswalls to the outer walls. In most cases the rooms tend to have rounded corners. The masonry is generally composed of large unshaped sandstone blocks and slabs which are set in varying amounts of mud mortar (e.g. Vivian 1960, Haskell 1975). Characteristically the adjoining courses of sandstone have barely overlapping blocks and thus the walls often appear to have been built with columns of slabs. The interiors of the rooms are usually covered with hand-pressed adobe mortar. In many cases the walls are plastered with mud, smoothed with an instrument that leaves a scored or textured surface, and then whitewashed. The ceilings of the rooms are supported by piñon and juniper logs (vigas) often as much as 30cm in diameter. Above the primary beams, and at right angles to them, are slats of juniper and piñon (latillas). Sometimes adobe is placed directly over the latillas; sometimes a layer of juniper bark precedes the adobe. Although the vigas are usually socketed in the outer walls of the pueblito, occasionally they are supported by larger posts set in the floor of the room. These posts are nearly always placed with the root (butt) end up to provide a broad surface to support the massive roof beams. Most of the vigas have been shaped with an iron adze to have a flat lower surface. Vigas also frequently bear the scars of iron axes on their ends and where the branches were removed. The latillas often

are charred along their margins, probably as a result of girdle-and-burn wood harvesting techniques.

Pueblitos contain a number of typical internal features that are characteristic of Navajo architecture for this period. Rooms frequently contain shelves built of parallel logs that are socketed diagonally in the corners of rooms, holes for pegs that probably were used to hang strings of corn, pots, and garments, and bins and niches for storage. Hooded fireplaces, modeled after the Spanish fireplaces, are found. Usually they consist of a log set diagonally in the corner of the room. The upper surface of the log was grooved to receive the ends of wooden slats that extended up toward the corner (Photo 2). The slats were then covered with mortar. A small ceiling vent usually provided an exit for smoke. Ceiling hatchways were used to gain access to the upper stories of the pueblitos although exterior doors in the second stories were also common. Most doorways have lintels of piñon and juniper poles, sometimes flattened with an adze. The thresholds are usually masonry. Occasionally mud mortar was used to round the openings in the entryways. More commonly, and characteristic of pueblitos, are entryways that are finished by constructing narrow masonry pillars on each side of the door (Photo 3). Sometimes, an adobe and post (jacal) wall protrudes a short distance into the room from one side of the doorway. Besides the exterior doors to the pueblito, the outer wall was often pierced by angled loopholes that point toward other sites and toward potential routes into the pueblito. In several instances, access to the boulder-top unit was apparently via a room below the boulder. Access to the boulder-top unit was gained by entering a door in the lower room and climbing a ladder through a hatchway to the roof.

Many of the pueblitos are in excellent condition and walls often stand 4 to 15 ft. high. Some sites have deteriorated through impacts from natural processes and from visitors. These latter impacts include the removal of roof beams, the reduction of wall height, the theft of notched log ladders used to reach the upper stories, and the vandalism of small areas of trash. Vandalism increased in late 1985 and the first half of 1986 and appears to be continuing. In an effort to stem the deterioration from visitor impacts, the Bureau of Land Management stabilized seven pueblitos from 1973 to 1975. An eighth site, Shaft House, was stabilized for the BLM by the National Park Service. In all cases the stabilization arrested the collapse of walls and roofs and improved drainage through the site. Each site was also marked with a well-designed interpretative plaque. The seven sites stabilized by the BLM are so well done that the repairs are virtually undetectable. The stabilization program has clearly enhanced the interpretative qualities of the sites and appears to have deterred vandalism.

Forked-stick hogans occur throughout Dinétah as well as in association with pueblitos and defensive walls. Those included in this project are typical of the ones found throughout the area, although they may encompass a shorter span of time. Generally the hogans have a framework of three poles that form a tripod. On this framework are placed split juniper slabs forming a cone. When they collapse, forked-stick hogans form circles with radiating spokes. In their original condition, the juniper slabs were covered with a layer of mud mortar. Slab-lined bins or hearths often occur within the hogan. Some hogans of this period have masonry entryways, generally oriented north or east. They may have resembled the covered entry passages at Old Fort Ruin (Carlson 1965).





**PHOTO 3 : GARCIA CANYON PUEBLITO — LA 36608**

**MASONRY PILLAR IN DOORWAY**



## **Site Descriptions**

Locational information for 85 sites was obtained through a search of various literature sources and site record files. Another 17 sites were located as a result of field survey during the project. In all 75 sites were visited, 49 of those were recorded and 48 were ultimately selected for the study.

Following are the individual site descriptions. All sites date to the Gobernador Phase (ca. 1680-1780) but where absolute dates (tree-ring samples) are available, they are reported in the "Dating" section of each site description. The section "Other Designations" indicates other names and numbers assigned to each site and the name of the person who recorded it. The section "Prior Work" lists surface collections, excavations, stabilization, and known visits by anthropologists that did not result in formal site records or new site numbers.

**Site No.:** LA 1684

**Site Name (for registration):** Pueblito Canyon Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 1684 (probably assigned as a result of Keur's work); N-USJ-GLJ-D (Navajo Land Claim – Richard Van Valkenburgh 1954); LA 5038, AR-03-20-03-1 (USFS – Carl Johnson 1967); Site 4 (Museum of New Mexico – Erwin and Kelly 1934); Pueblito Canyon A (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941)

**Owner:** USFS (Carson National Forest)

**Prior Work:** Excavation of pueblito – Keur 1941; tree-ring collections – Erwin and Kelly 1934, Navajo Land Claim 1954, Keur 1941(?); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-6.

**Setting:** The site is located on the lowest bench of a mesa which rises about 450 ft. above. The bench is covered with piñon and juniper but sage has colonized the ruin. The site is at an elevation of 6660 feet. The site commands a view of Cabresto Mesa Tower and a considerable expanse of canyon to the east.

**Description:** The site contains a four-room pueblito consisting of an original two-room unit to which a second two-room unit was added. Remnants of the secondary roof members occur in the fill of the rooms. The walls vary in height from about 30cm to 1.2m. Keur reported (1944: 78) that two "loopholes" or small portholes or windows, were present in one room of the structure. The site also contains a mound of burned sandstone (4 x 7m) and a crude ring of sandstone about 4-5m in diameter that may be a hogan foundation. Trash and ashy soil occur on the slopes east of the pueblito. The predominant artifacts are Dinétah Gray ceramics. Keur recovered an iron axe head and a wooden weaving batten in the fill of one of the rooms.

**Dating:** One tree-ring specimen collected by Erwin and Kelly (RG-691) was assigned a date of 1735c. The Navajo Land Claim reported two dates of 1732.

**Condition:** The primary roof members are missing. The walls are reduced in height from the time of Keur's excavation. The structure is environmentally stable. The trash on the slopes of the bench is subject to the effects of gravity but has been partially stabilized by dense vegetation.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its contribution to archeological studies. It can contribute to studies of site locations relative to systems of visual communication and to studies of economics and social organization.

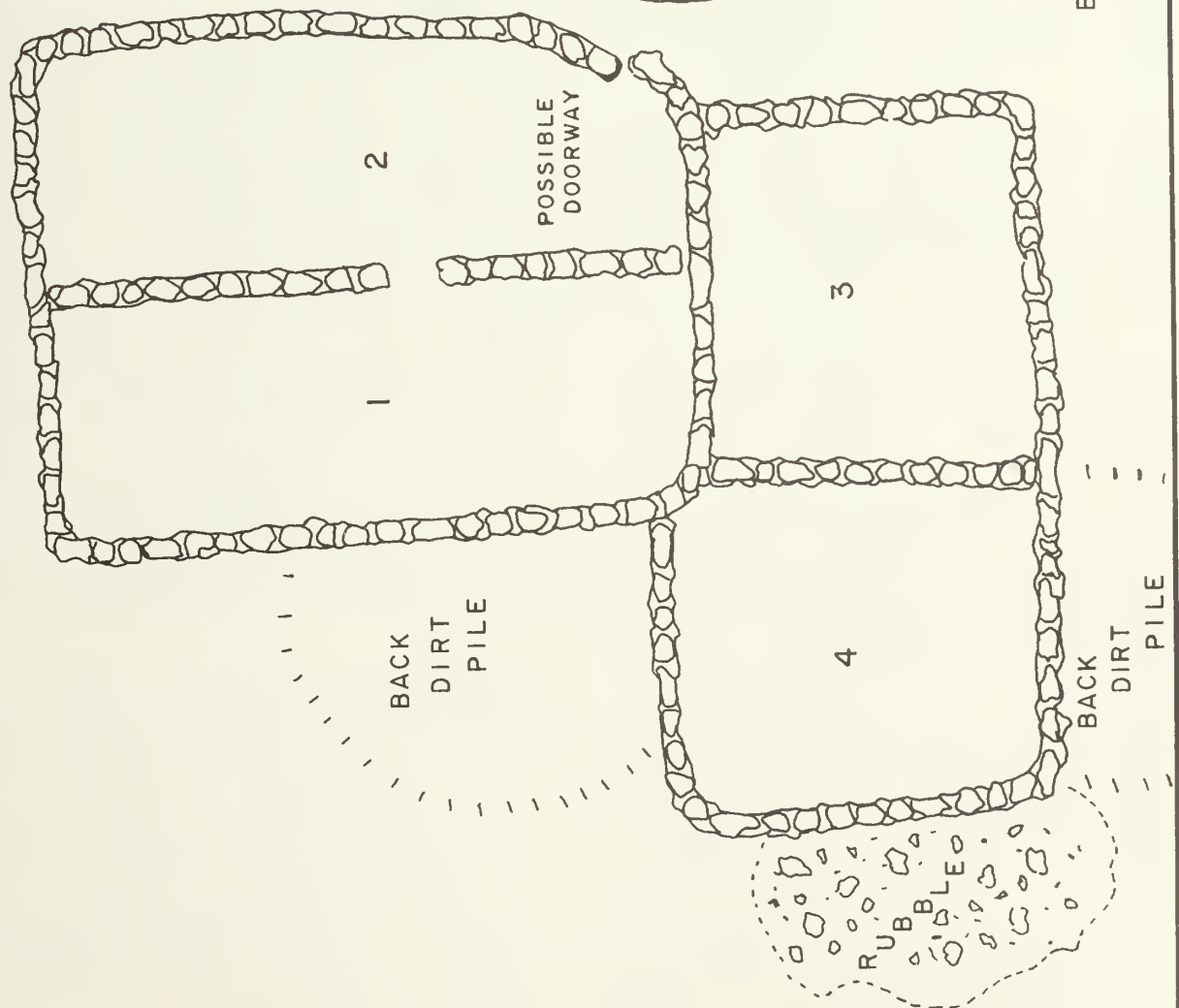
# PUEBLITO CANYON

RUIN

LA 1684



0 1M 2M



**Site No.:** LA 1869

**Site Name (for registration):** Old Fort

**Other Designations:** LA 1869 (probably assigned as a result of Erwin and Kelly's work); Ruin II (A.V. Kidder 1912); Site 3 (University of Colorado – Earl Morris 1915); Site 8 (Museum of New Mexico – C.O. Erwin and M.W. Kelly 1934); Largo 5:1 (Gila Pueblo – Deric O'Bryan 1940); San Rafael Compound (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941)

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Visited by A.V. Kidder in 1912 and by Roy L. Carlson and Frank W. Eddy 1962; excavation of trash mounds and perhaps hogans – Morris 1915 (collections at the University of Colorado Museum); excavation of one hogan – Keur 1941; tree-ring collections – Morris 1915, C.O. Erwin and M.W. Kelly 1934, Deric O'Bryan 1940; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-6.

**Setting:** The site is on the edge of the mesa overlooking the east branch of a deep canyon in a moderately dense piñon-juniper woodland. The site has a good view down the canyon. Morris #2, a pueblito at the mouth of the canyon, and the tip of Three Corn Ruin are also in sight.

**Description:** The site consists of eight forked-stick hogans and about 12 ground-floor rooms forming two roomblocks, all enclosed by a masonry wall. At least four rooms had second stories when recorded by Morris in 1915. The compound wall stands nearly 2m high and is pierced by two covered entry passages leading north to the bench below the compound. One corner of the compound contained a diagonal-beam platform (a "bastion"), now collapsed, near the top of the wall. Three doors on the mesa sides of the compound wall are not in evidence. Another entry from the slope below through a hatchway is still present. The principal roomblock contains 11 ground-floor rooms and at least 3 second-story rooms. Several of the rooms contained niches, cubbyholes, and "closets." Upright (butt-end up) roof supports and large primary beams are present. The secondary roomblock contains one two-story room with several intact roof beams. Burned rock piles are located to the south and east of the compound. Three hogans had north-facing entry passages constructed

with masonry walls and wooden roofs. One of the other hogans may have been a sweatlodge.

Excavations in the trash mound produced a metate, manos, arrowshaft smoothers, an iron axe, bones of sheep, horse, dog and deer, and a variety of pottery. The ceramic assemblage is dominated by Gobernador Polychrome with specimens of Ashiwi, Puname, Tewa, Payupki, and Hawikuh Polychrome, and occasional pieces of Jemez Black-on-white and glaze wares. Dineta Gray is today the most common pottery type on the site.

**Dating:** Most of the tree-ring samples did not produce cutting dates but they indicate a range of 1722 to 1749. The only cutting date is 1749c. A living tree in the courtyard, cut by Earl Morris in 1915, began to grow about 1768, thus suggesting an approximate date for the abandonment of the site.

**Condition:** The site is still in good condition although portions are considerably reduced from the time Morris recorded the site. The second-story rooms have collapsed, formerly roofed rooms are exposed to the elements, only one of three standing hogans is still erect, the log ladder is missing, and the bastion and the part of the wall supporting it have collapsed. Wooden members that roofed the masonry entries to the hogans are missing. In contrast, features like the outer wall, the covered entry passages, and the ground-floor rooms are virtually the same as they were 70 years ago. The large burned rock pile south of the compound has one large pothole in the center. Sometime in the first six months of 1986, several areas of the midden were potted. Since the construction of a gas well access road 100 meters or so to the east in 1986, several off-road vehicle trails have developed. The site would benefit from a stabilization program to preserve the extant masonry and timbers.

**Significance:** This site is one of the largest pueblito sites of the Gobernador Phase. It is significant for its architecture, which is generally well-preserved, especially such features as the masonry tunnel entrances to the hogans, the covered entries, and the outer defensive wall. It contains significant archeological data, particularly tree-ring specimens, faunal remains, a variety of Puebloan pottery types, and evidence of food processing. It is, therefore, potentially useful for studies of economics, social organization, responses to raiding, and relations among ethnic and social groups.

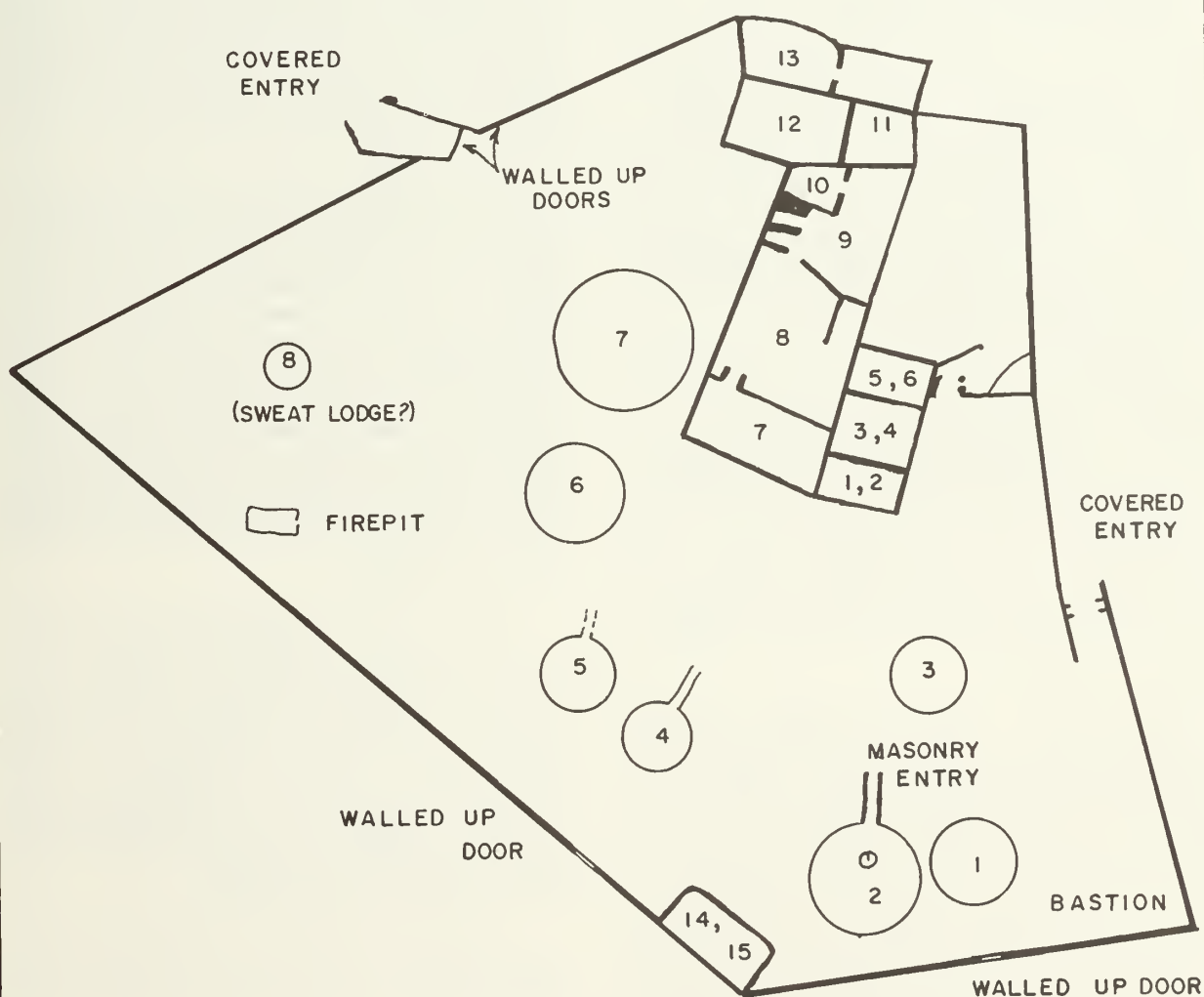
# OLD FORT RUIN

(from Carlson 1965:9)

LA 1869

TN

0 3M 6M





**Site No.:** LA 1871

**Site Name (for registration):** Three Corn Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 1871 (probably assigned as a result of Erwin and Kelly's work); Site 4 (Earl Morris 1915-1917); Ruin I (A.V. Kidder 1912); Eagle's Nest/Largo 5:2 (Gila Pueblo – Deric O'Bryan 1940); Site 9 (Museum of New Mexico – C.O. Erwin and M.W. Kelly 1934); N-USJ-GLJ-U (Navajo Land Claim – Richard Van Valkenburgh and Maxwell Yazzie 1956); San Rafael Tower (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941)

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Visited by A.V. Kidder 1912 and by Roy L. Carlson and Frank Eddy 1962; excavation of burial areas and trash – Morris 1915 (collections at University of Colorado Museum); surface collection – Navajo Land Claim 1956 (collections at Navajo Tribal Museum); tree-ring collections – Morris 1915, O'Bryan 1940, Erwin and Kelly 1934, Navajo Land Claim 1956; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-6.

**Setting:** The site is on a detached sandstone massif on the south side of a canyon. The massif is attached to the top of the mesa by a narrow neck. Associated trash, artifact scatters, etc. lie on the slopes below the crag and on the flat bench surrounding it. The vegetation is primarily piñon-juniper woodland with patches of sage and other shrubs. The site commands a view of the eastern branch of the canyon and of Old Fort, which today is largely obscured by trees.

**Description:** The site contains a large pueblito with a defensive wall, at least two forked-stick hogans, three burned rock piles, two burial areas, and extensive trash. One hogan is on the massif within the defensive wall; one is on the neck connecting the crag to the mesa edge; a third hogan is reported to have stood within the plaza. The trash deposits are strewn down the slopes and on the bench below the crag. The pueblito and its courtyards occupy every inch of the surface of the crag. There are two primary roomblocks separated by a small courtyard. At least 10 ground-floor and two upper-story rooms are present. At the time Morris visited the site, other rooms were visible on the northwestern tip of the massif. These

rooms may have formed a maze that controlled the entry from the notched log ladder at the base of the crag through a roofed passageway to the large northern courtyard. Remnants of a defensive wall encircle the rooms and courtyards. The suite of rooms on the southern tip of the crag contain upright roof supports, intact roofs, storage bins, hatchways, and a sealed door. A hooded fireplace was present in the upper story. There is evidence that these rooms were remodeled. The adjoining northern suite of rooms show signs of major repairs and the addition of new rooms. Rubble from the northern room unit has tumbled into the large northwestern courtyard. Burned adobe and charred timbers on the slope north and northeast of the repaired rooms suggest the buildings may have burned. One of the original walls in this unit contains two sections of adobe bricks. Other features in this set of rooms are diagonal roof beams, a covered passage that was subsequently blocked by new construction, and massive buttresses.

Excavation and survey collections contain a wide variety of pottery and other miscellaneous artifacts – a stone pipe engraved with a corn stalk, shells, an arrowshaft straightener, a scraper, a projectile point, and a blade. Although Dinetah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome dominate the assemblage, Ashiwi, Puname, Tewa, Kotyiti Glaze, Ogapoge, Pojoaque, and Payupki polychromes also occur. Nearly 60 whole decorated vessels were represented. Other pieces of tradewares of some Pueblo I intrusives are also present. Elk, mule deer, sheep, horse, and dog are represented in the faunal collection.

Most of the ceramic tradewares were found in a pottery dump around the northern burial area. A specimen of Chinese porcelain (1644-1722), the oldest known piece in New Mexico, was found in this area. The burials contained many items of Spanish manufacture – trade beads, metal crosses, copper bells, buckles, buttons, and a bridle bit – and a selection of bone and shell beads and pendants. None of the eight (?) graves contained pottery.

A petroglyph of three corn plants on the western end of the base of the crag gave the site its name.

**Dating:** Most of the tree-ring samples acquired by Morris, Erwin and Kelly, and Gila Pueblo produced non-cutting dates ranging from 1725vv to 1732vv. One date (1732v) is probab-



ly close to the cutting date. Specimens obtained by the Navajo Land Claims cover a longer period of time:

Pueblito: 1712G	1728G	Hogan: 1668+
1720G	1731+G	1707
1721G	1745G	1715G
1724G		

**Condition:** Despite years of intensive visitation and abuse, Three Corn Ruin is still in excellent condition. Certain parts of the pueblito have severely deteriorated. The second-story rooms have virtually disappeared, bins in the southern room unit have been dismantled and portions of wall have been reduced by half. Nonetheless, intact roofs with closing material that still retains its leaves and remnants of wall plaster remain. The fill in the rooms varies from about 10cm to about 60cm in the southernmost rooms. A few potholes were dug in these rooms in the summer of 1986. The northern room unit is in good shape although many walls exhibit signs of weakness that may have developed when rooms were damaged by fire during the period of occupation. In general the walls are lower than those in the southern roomblock but the northern roomblock contains more fill, perhaps a meter or more in places. One room and half of another have nearly intact roofs. Hewn wooden planks that lined the entrance to the covered passage disappeared sometime after 1950 and extensive pothunting and vandalism were noted in the mid-1950s. Log ladders and a grooved timber leaning against the pueblo in 1939 had been removed

by the 1950s. The principal log ladder giving access to the top of the crag was stolen in 1984.

Only one of the main hogan supports remains upright and all evidence of the second hogan in the plaza has vanished under a cover of rubble and sage. Rooms at the northern end of the northern room unit have tumbled producing a mass of wall fall 2m or more deep in which vandals dug holes in the summer of 1986.

The three cornstalk petroglyphs on the crag have faded leaving only one clearly visible.

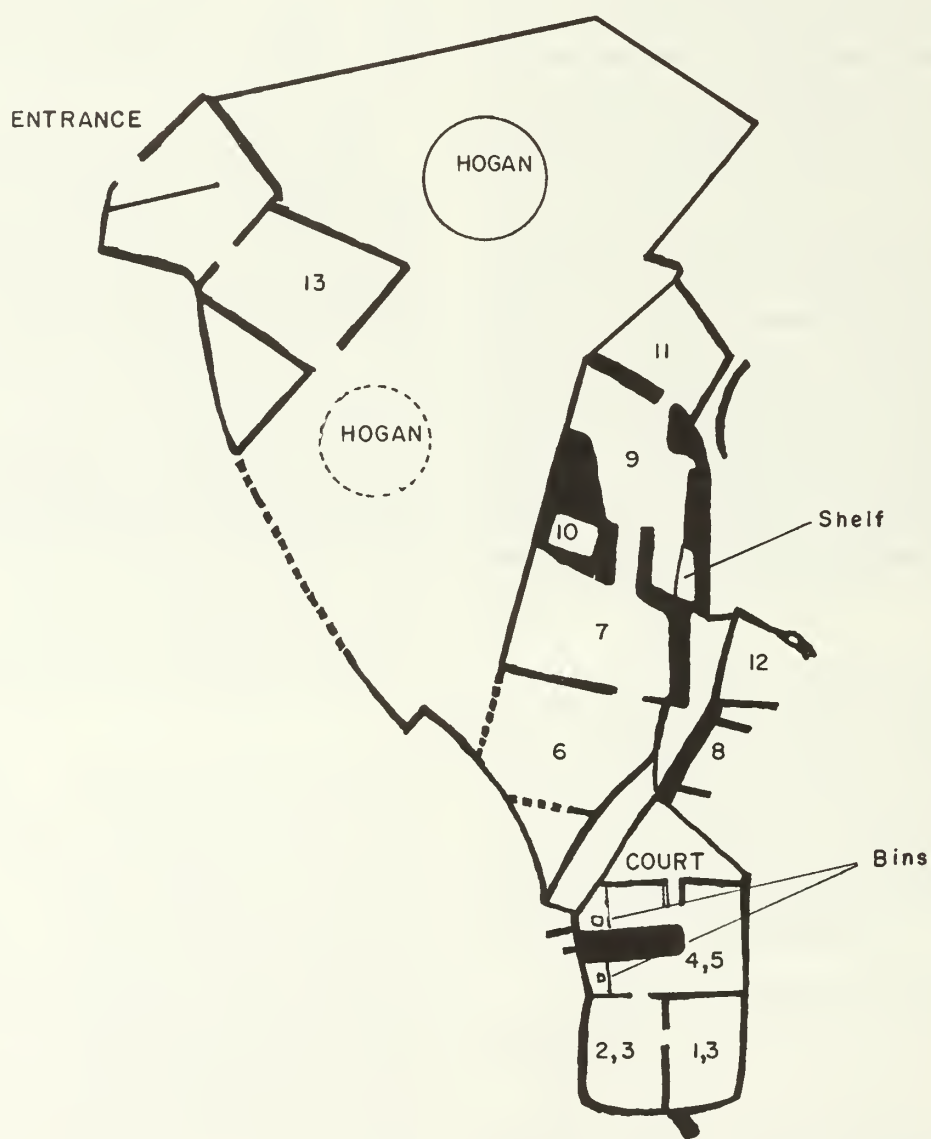
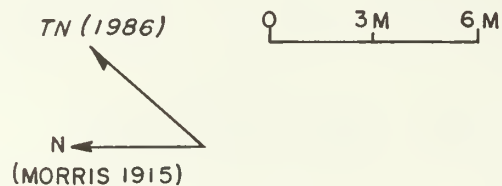
Earl Morris excavated the two burial areas and recovered many restorable vessels from the area around the graves, but a substantial artifact scatter is still present around each burial area. The fill in these areas appears to be about 60cm deep.

**Significance:** Three Corn Ruin is one of the three largest known pueblito sites. Despite the accelerated deterioration of the pueblito since the advent of oil and gas development in the area in the 1950s, the site is still in excellent shape. Morris' excavations and the recovery of datable tree-ring specimens by the Navajo Land Claim document the past and potential contribution of this site to studies of the Gobernador Period. The site can be expected to yield additional data regarding social and ethnic relations, social organization, demography, defensive strategies, and trade and subsistence. The site is also significant for its architecture.

# THREE CORN RUIN

(from Carlson 1965:16)

LA 1871



**Site No.:** LA 1872

**Site Name (for registration):** Kin Naa dáá' (Maize House)

**Other Designations:** LA 1872 (probably assigned as a result of Erwin and Kelly's work); Site 11 (Museum of New Mexico – C.O. Erwin and M.V. Kelly 1934); Site 5 (Earl Morris 1915)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Records, excavation(?), surface collection – Morris 1915 (collections at University of Colorado Museum); surface collection – University of Colorado Museum – Roy L. Carlson 1962; surface collection – Erwin and Kelly (collections at Museum of New Mexico); tree-ring collection – Erwin and Kelly 1934; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The pueblito is perched on a talus boulder near the head of a small drainage that runs north into Gobernador Canyon. It is located in a transition zone between the piñon-juniper woodland on the benches above and the sage on the valley floor. The site has a view down the drainage, but no other known pueblitos can be seen.

**Description:** The site consists of a small pueblito and trash deposits on the bench above the pueblito. Rubble from the pueblito walls obscures the base of the boulder which apparently shelters small storage cavities. A set of carved hand and foot holds lead up the face of the boulder to the pueblito entrances.

The pueblito consisted originally of two ground-floor and two second-story rooms built as a unit. Subsequently, the north-facing door to the pueblito was blocked and a narrow entry passage was built onto the original four rooms. A new set of footholds was apparently hewn in the boulder leading to the new entry.

Previous collections indicate that Gobernador Polychrome and Dinetah Gray were the most common pottery types. Small amounts of Payupki and Ashiwi polychromes were also reported. Small cob maize has been churned up in recent pothunting.

**Dating:** One tree-ring sample obtained by Erwin and Kelly yielded a date of 1727v.

**Condition:** Considerable deterioration has occurred since 1915. Sometime before 1962, a second-story doorway collapsed. Between 1915 and 1985 parts of the south wall (first and second stories) fell. Since 1962, most of the ceiling in Room 2, and the north wall of Room 1, except for about 4 courses, and parts of the second-story above Room 2 (including an exterior door) have vanished.

Potholes are present in both ground-floor rooms but the remaining fill is about 20-30cm deep. Pothunting in the spring or summer of 1986 shows that at least a meter of fill exists at the base of the boulder and that it contains perishable artifacts. Datable roof timbers are present in two rooms.

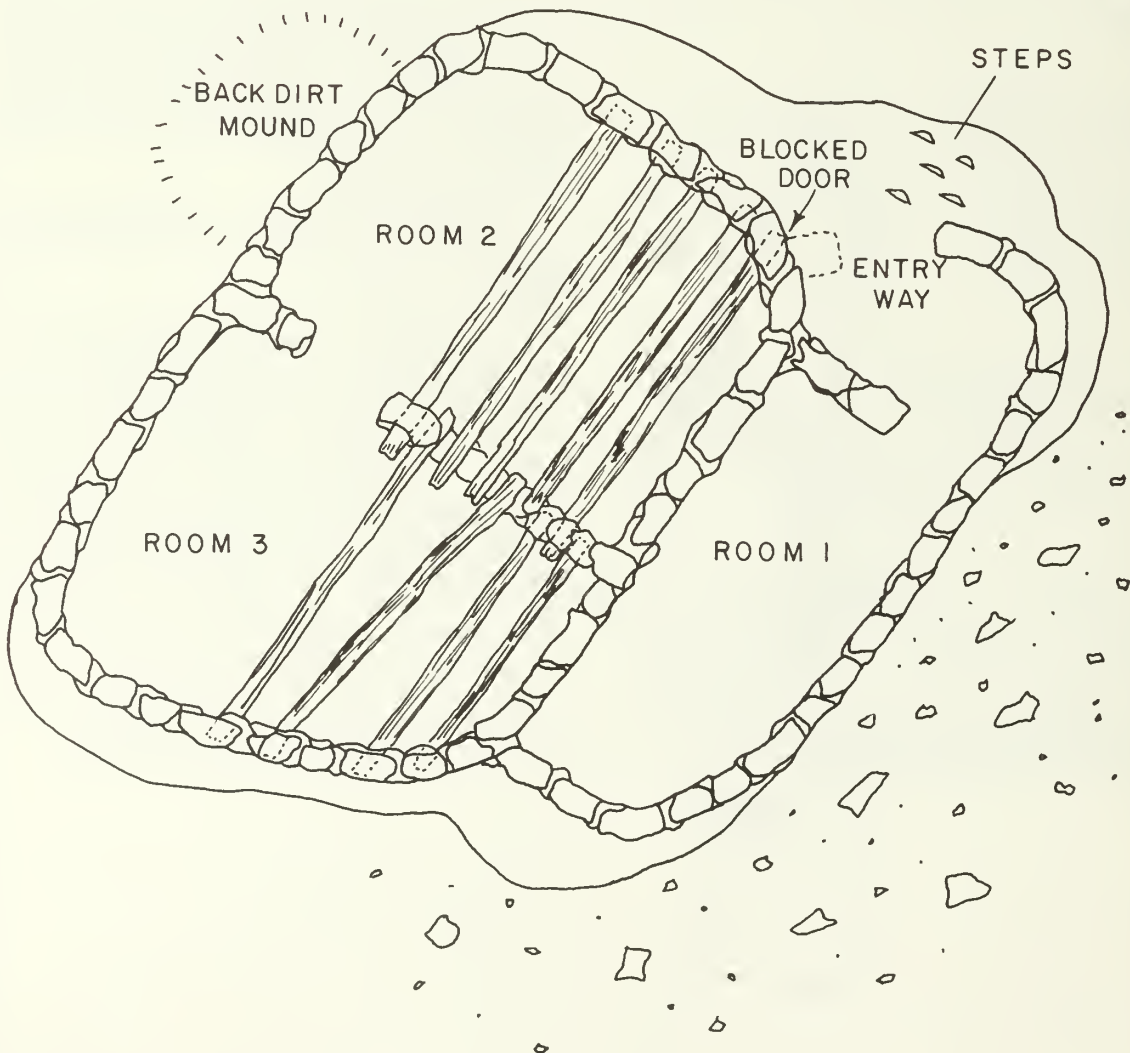
The site is in need of stabilization and protection from vandalism, but is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential contribution to archeological studies. Although portions of the pueblito have collapsed, patterns of architectural modifications remain. The masonry is one of the best representatives of the "columnar" style typical of the Gobernador Period. The presence of datable timbers and well-preserved maize indicate that data may be recovered from the site that would apply to studies of economics, demography, and social organization. The site differs in the absence of views of other pueblitos and for its restricted views of the terrain relative to other sites. It is, thus, useful for studies of variability in defensive strategies.

KIN NAA DAA  
LA 1872

0 1M

TN





**Site No.:** LA 2135

**Site Name (for registration):** Frances Canyon Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 2135 (assigned as a result of E.T. Hall's 1938 survey); Francais Tower III (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941); N-USJ-GLJ-TT (Navajo Land Claim – Richard Van Valkenburgh and Bernadine Whitegoat 1956); N-USJ-GLJ-II (Navajo Land Claim – Frederick W. Sleight 1953); LA 9072/AR-30-01-189 (BLM 1970); Site 6 (Earl Morris 1915); probably LA 8755 and possibly LA 8745

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Visited by Roy L. Carlson 1962 or 1963; excavation of pueblito, burials and trash – Morris 1915 (collections at University of Colorado Museum); surface collection – Navajo Land Claim 1953, 1957; tree-ring collection – Hall 1938, Morris 1915, Navajo Land Claim 1957; stabilization – BLM 1975; faunal collection – Roy L. Carlson 1962; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a canyon rim overlooking a tributary of Frances Creek. Keur referred to this canyon as the "Pueblito Canyon of the Francais." The site has a view of this tributary and partway down Frances Creek, but the view is largely blocked by trees. The arroyo below the site is sage covered and the benches and mesas are in piñon-juniper woodland.

**Description:** This site contains 23 ground-floor rooms, 12 second-story rooms, three third-story rooms, two possible hogans, substantial refuse and activity areas, and at least one burned rock pile. The three-story tower, which is the site's most distinctive feature, sits on the highest block of rock on the edge of the cliff. The other rooms either adjoin the tower or form semi-contiguous room units east and north of the tower. Although there are segments of courtyard walls, there is no evidence of an enclosing outer defensive wall. The structures contain intact roofs, loopholes, loom fittings, peg holes, original mortar and whitewash, bins, semi-concealed entries into rooms below the tower, and hooded Spanish-style fireplaces. One of the hogans is a forked-stick example; the other possible hogan has a masonry foundation. A horizontal rock art panel containing "hairnot" figures which symbolize Born for Water (one of

the Navajo Hero Twins) is located north of the tower near one of the isolated roomblocks. These symbols are used in the Navajo Nightway ceremony.

The trash mounds at the site contained up to 76cm of cultural deposits. Among the artifacts recovered were shaped pieces of wood, a part for a wheel-lock firearm, a basket fragment, an obsidian point hafted to an arrow shaft, a buckskin knife-sheath, and pieces of Dinetah Gray, Gobernador Polychrome, Jemez Black-on-white, Puname Polychrome, Biscuit B, and Hawikuh Polychrome ceramics. Domestic sheep, horse, and mule deer bones were also collected from the site. In unspecified nearby areas, Morris excavated three burials. European trade beads, shell pendants and beads, copper bells, a bone whistle, Spanish brass tack ornaments, and a metal cross were found with the burials of two children. Fragments of a wood garment and a hank of wool yarn were also recovered from the burials. On a ledge near the pueblo, Morris also found a cache of worked sticks including loom parts, an arrow, and digging (?) sticks.

**Dating:** Morris' excavations yielded one tree-ring date of 1735+c. Hall's 1938 collection produced the following dates: 1717+c, 1722r, 1723c, 1736r, 1742r, 1743c.

The Navajo Land Claim collection yielded three additional dates: 1743, 1743G, and 1745c.

**Condition:** Frances Canyon Ruin is in excellent condition although portions of the site have deteriorated since Morris worked there in 1915. For example, the remnants of the third-story of the tower have disappeared as well as the roof to the second-story. Overall about a meter of the upper walls of the tower have fallen. A series of bins and entrances in a round room adjacent to the tower have deteriorated. Several roofs have collapsed and this probably accounts for much of the meter to meter and a half fill in many of the ground-floor rooms. Despite the deterioration, several rooms have intact roofs and roof beams, bins, internal features, etc. BLM stabilization has arrested much of the structural deterioration and has enhanced the interpretative properties of the site.

**Significance:** Frances Canyon is one of the three largest known pueblitos. It is also one of the best preserved. It is significant for its architecture and for its contribution (both past and potential future) to archeological studies.





PHOTO 4 : FRANCES CANYON RUIN - LA 2135

# FRANCES CANYON


## LA 2135

BURNED  ROCK

N  
(MORRIS  
1915)

TN  
(approx.  
1986)

0 50 100  
FEET

 APPROXIMATE  
LOCATION OF  
MODERN CAMP/  
WORK AREA

SCATTERED  
ARTIFACTS

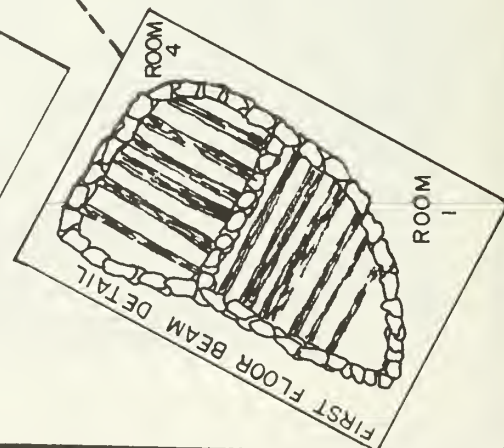
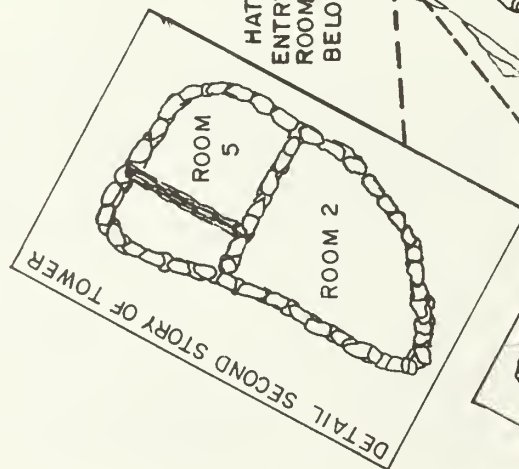
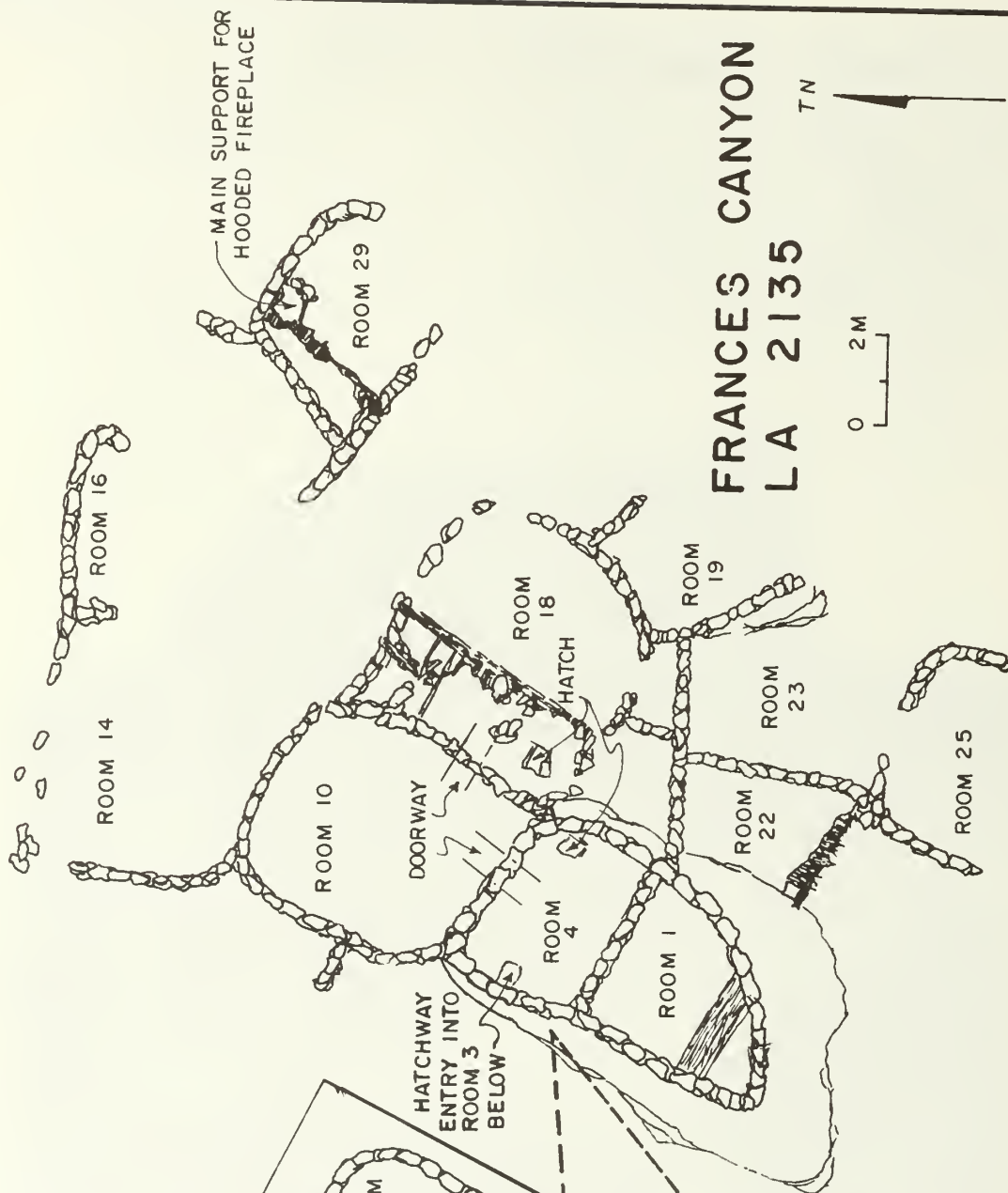
PUEBLITO

ALCOVE

# FRANCES CANYON LA 2135

TN

0 2 M





**Site No.:** LA 2138

**Site Name (for registration):** Cabresto Mesa Tower Complex

**Other Designations:** LA 2138 (assigned as a result of E.T. Hall's 1938 survey); N-USJ-GLJ-UU (Navajo Land Claim — J. Lee Correll and Clifford Gedekoh 1955); The High Site/CM-T (Columbia University — Dorothy L. Keur 1941); La Jara (E.T. Hall 1938)

**Owner:** USFS (Carson National Forest)

**Prior Work:** Excavation of 3 hogans — Keur 1941; tree-ring sample collection — Hall 1938; surface collection and tree-ring sample collection — Navajo Land Claim 1955 (artifact collections at the Navajo Tribal Museum); National Register documentation — M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** This site, at an elevation of nearly 7400 ft., rises almost 900 feet above the floor of La Jara Canyon. It has an imposing view of the surrounding mesas and of La Jara Canyon. The vegetation consists of piñon-juniper/oak woodland with a moderately dense understory of shrubs and grasses.

**Description:** This site consists of a pueblito on a steep-sided sandstone knob with one room at the base of the knob (now obscured by rubble) about 10 feet below the upper structure. There are at least seven contiguous rooms on the crag. Two of them now appear to be entrance or passage rooms but an earlier site sketch by Keur suggests that they were more complete rooms in 1941. Keur notes a series of stone and adobe steps leading from the buried room below to the top of the crag. She also records 11 hogans and two sweathouses on the benches below the

pueblito. None of these were located during the survey for this nomination. The walls of the pueblito are low; they vary from a few foundation stones to about 60cm in height. Roof beams are strewn downslope on all sides of the crag.

Trash deposits are sparse, but Gobernador Polychrome, Zuni and Acoma wares, and Dineta Gray were found in previous surveys. A few chalcedony flakes, a scraper, and two core fragments have also been noted.

**Dating:** Hall's tree-ring samples were dated as follows: 1705vv, 1711vv, 1712v, 1713v, 1713r, 1713c, 1714r, and 1714c (two dates). The three samples taken by the Navajo Land Claim appear to be from one beam and may duplicate one of Hall's samples. The three dates obtained from the Navajo Land Claim are 1712 and 1713 (two dates). Construction of the pueblito in 1712-1714 is indicated.

**Condition:** The pueblito is in fair condition. Portions of roof that were present in 1955 have vanished. Walls are perhaps 1m lower now than in 1955. There are potholes in three of the rooms and someone has used some of the displaced beams to create a shelter in the most intact room. The fill in the rooms appears to range from 10cm to 50cm. The cultural fill at the base of the crag is about 1m deep.

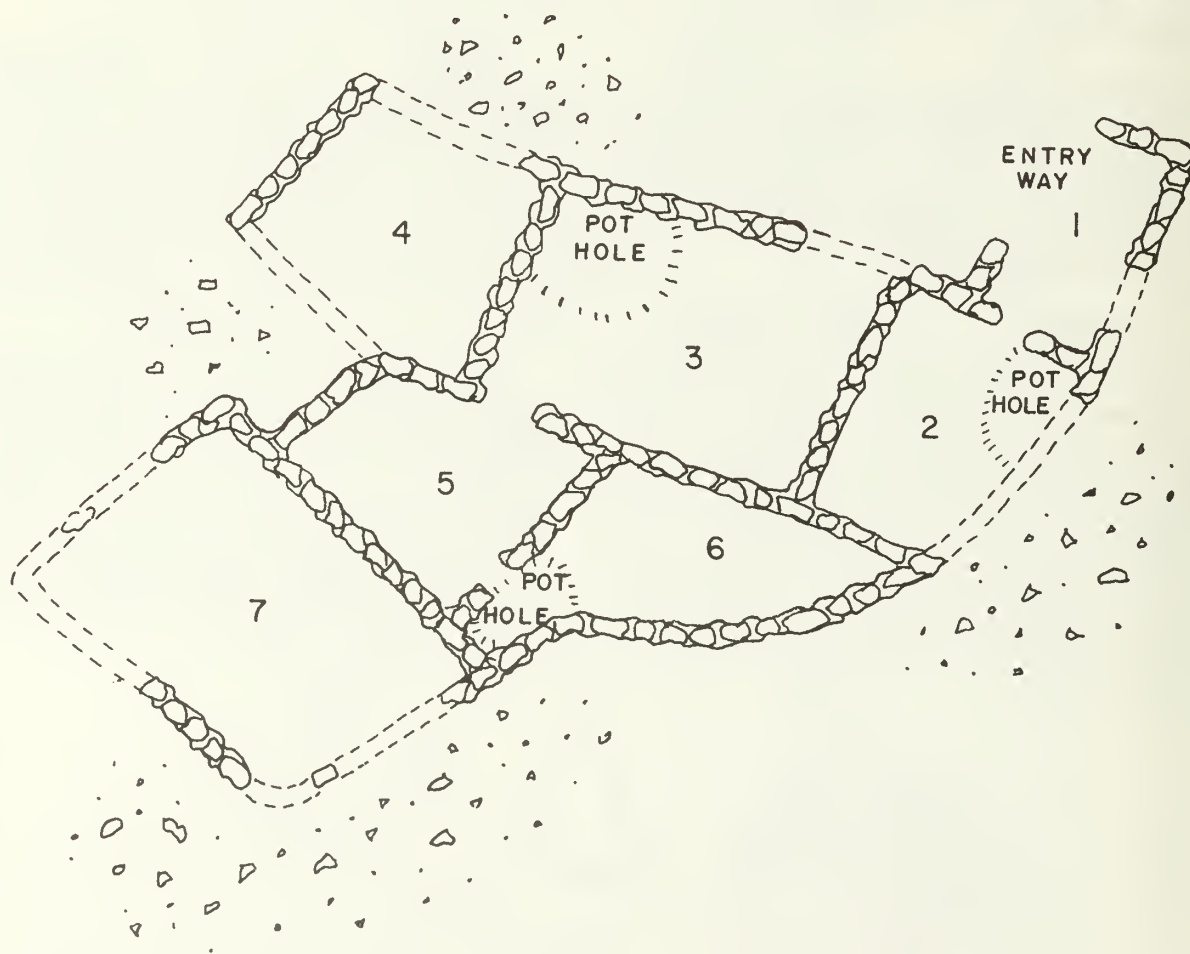
**Significance:** The Cabresto Mesa Tower Complex is one of the earlier pueblitos with a tight cluster of cutting dates that suggest a single episode of construction. Although the architecture is in relatively poor condition, the pattern of room relationships is still evident. Buried floor features and trash deposits are highly likely. Together, these types of data have the potential to contribute to archeological studies of economics, social organization, and defensive tactics.



CABRESTO MESA  
TOWER COMPLEX  
LA 2138



0 1M 2M



**Site No.:** LA 2298

**Site Name (for registration):** Tapacito Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 2298 (probably assigned as a result of E.T. Hall and W.S. Stallings's work 1941); AR-30-01-004 (BLM); RA 14/LA 5663 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1959); E-CL-UL-RR (Navajo Land Claim – David M. Brugge and J. Lee Correll 1959)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Recorded, tree-ring collection – Hall and Stallings 1941; surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society 1959 (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-8-13); surface collection – Navajo Land Claim 1959 (collections at Navajo Tribal Museum); tree-ring and surface collection – John P. Wilson, Museum of New Mexico 1972 (collections at Museum of New Mexico); stabilization – BLM 1975; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** Tapacito Ruin is on a bench of the mesa on the east side of Largo Canyon just downstream from its confluence with Tapacito Creek. The pueblito is set back from the edge of the bench and thus has a more restricted view of surrounding areas than do some other sites of this period. Portions of Cibola Canyon, Largo Canyon and the surrounding areas can be seen. The site is in a small area of sage within a moderately dense piñon-juniper woodland.

**Description:** The site contains a pueblito, a possible stone-ring hogan, and trash deposits. The pueblito has four contiguous well-preserved ground-floor rooms with small portions of the second-story remaining. Three other rooms exist only as foundations and rubble mounds adjoining the four other rooms. Two rooms have small remnants of roof. Another room has a nearly intact roof. Evidence of two hooded fireplaces remains within the better preserved rooms. The lower walls of the four preserved rooms are atypically thick – nearly 1m – and have a rubble core with sandstone block veneer. The upper story walls are thinner and lack a rubble core. The corners of the building,

which constitute the original construction unit, are nicely squared. Access to the rooms would necessarily have been through the roof since there are no exterior ground-floor doors; one room has a ceiling hatchway. Access within the ground-floor unit was also restricted by a partition wall that separated one pair of rooms from the other. The possible hogan is a scattered ring of stones about 20m east of the pueblito. Trash deposits occur on the bench and are concentrated to the south and southeast of the pueblito. Previous collections include Dinetah Gray, Gobernador Polychrome, and Zia-Acoma sherds. A chipped stone drill was also recorded.

**Dating:** The Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research reevaluated the original tree-ring collection by Hall and Stallings and dated other samples obtained by Wilson in 1972:

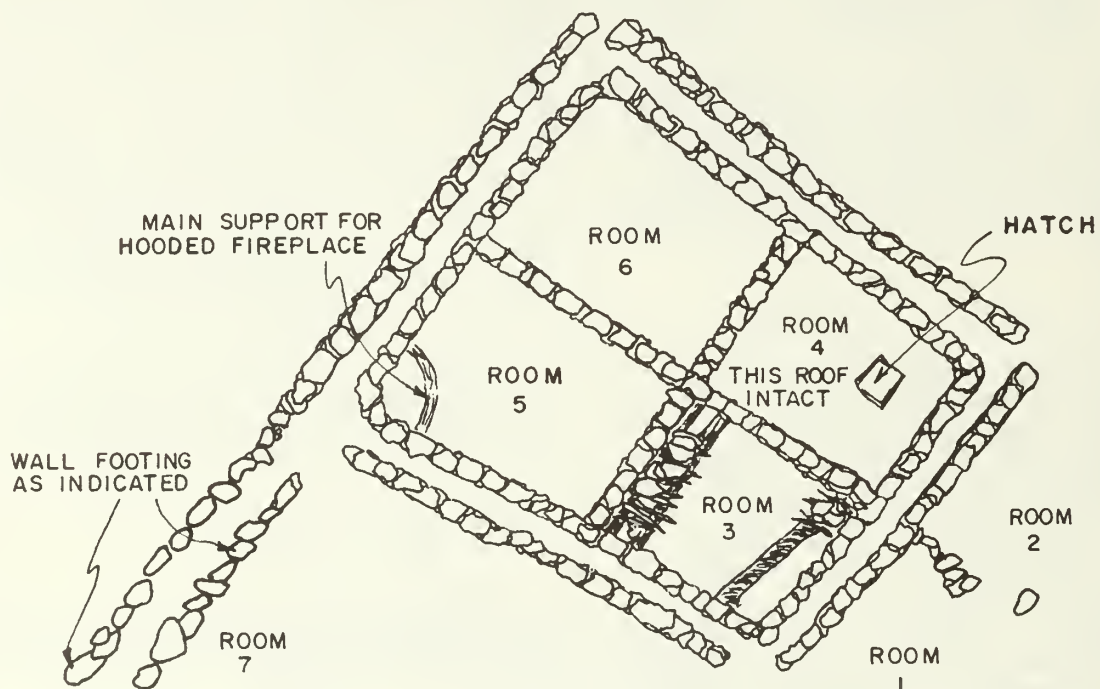
Core-unit of four rooms: 1694r, 1694rL, 1694rL, 1694cL, and 1689vv

Other or unknown provenience: 1689v, 1690v, 1690r (three dates), 1690c (two dates), 1691+v, 1694rL, and 1690cL

These dates indicate two periods of wood cutting and construction: 1690 and 1694.

**Condition:** Up to a meter of fill may be present in the rubble mounds. In the other rooms, the fill is probably less than 50cm. The area of the trash deposit averages about 10cm in depth. The four core rooms are in excellent condition with walls standing up to 2.5m high and with one roof in excellent condition. Some evidence of plaster and whitewash remain on the interior walls. Stabilization to retard the effects of weathering and visitation have been effective and are consonant with the architectural and archeological integrity of the site.

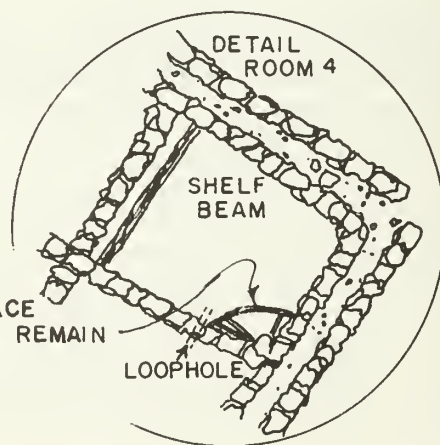
**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and its potential to contribute to archeological studies. The clustering of tree-ring dates at 1690 and 1694 indicate two episodes of construction – one immediately before and one immediately after the resumption of Spanish control in northern New Mexico. This site is, therefore, the earliest dated pueblito and it may be an example of a pueblito built by Pueblo refugees. It has the potential to contribute to studies of social and ethnic relations during the early Gobernador Period.



# TAPACITO RUIN LA 2298

TN

0 1M



REMNANT OF HOODED FIREPLACE  
ONLY 3 VERTICAL SPLINTS REMAIN

**Site No.:** LA 2433

**Site Name (for registration):** Kin Yazhi (Little House)

**Other Designations:** LA 2433 (assigned as a result of M. Farmer's 1938 survey); Site 2/Largo#2 (University of Arizona – Malcolm F. Farmer 1938); SAR 1937 #1 (School of American Research – Elizabeth Murphy 1937); E-CL-UL-H (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Excavation of pueblito and one hogan – Murphy 1937; observed by Van Valkenburgh 1937(?); recorded, surface collection – Farmer 1938; surface collection – Loren Bell, Navajo Tribe (?) 1953; tree-ring and artifact collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957; tree-ring sample collection – Gila Pueblo 1940; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site sits on the eastern spur of a narrow mesa that separates two canyons. It commands a view up Largo Canyon for about 6 miles, down Largo for about a mile, and up a side canyon for about 2 miles. A pueblito (Canyon View Ruin) across the mouth of the side canyon is clearly visible. The canyon bottoms are covered with sage and grasses and the benches and mesas are in piñon-juniper woodland.

**Description:** The site consists of a one-room, one-story pueblito and two hogans with scattered trash deposits. The structure has a north-facing doorway narrowed by a masonry pillar and contains evidence of a corner fireplace.

The structure sits on a sandstone knob that towers about six meters above the surrounding bench. The structure originally contained loopholes in the southwest, west and northeast walls.

The two hogans lie near the base of the knob. The trash deposits are thinly scattered around the hogans. Gobernador Polychrome, Dineta Gray, and pottery from Zia, Zuni and Acoma have been reported from the site. A log ladder that provided access to the ruin is known to have been in the possession of Jim Counselor of Counselor's Trading Post.

**Dating:** One date of 1732 was obtained from a Gila Pueblo sample. The Navajo Land Claim obtained the following dates from the pueblito: 1730, 1731, 1737, 1741, 1742+, and 1743.

**Condition:** Neither the roof nor the pole above the corner fireplace remains. Several roof timbers lie at the base of the sandstone knob. The walls currently stand 20cm to 1m high, considerably reduced from the time the site was first recorded. Evidence of a possible door on the south side has vanished with the collapse of the south wall. One of the hogans is collapsed in a wheel spoke pattern; the other, which was excavated, is disarticulated. The trash deposits are about 10cm deep.

**Significance:** The site, as shown by its setting, is significant for its role in studies of defensive tactics. Enough of the structure remains to make the site significant for its architecture. Its potential to contribute to future archeological studies is limited by the shallowness of the deposits; however, the site has contributed significant data through excavations and collections in the period between 1937 and 1957.



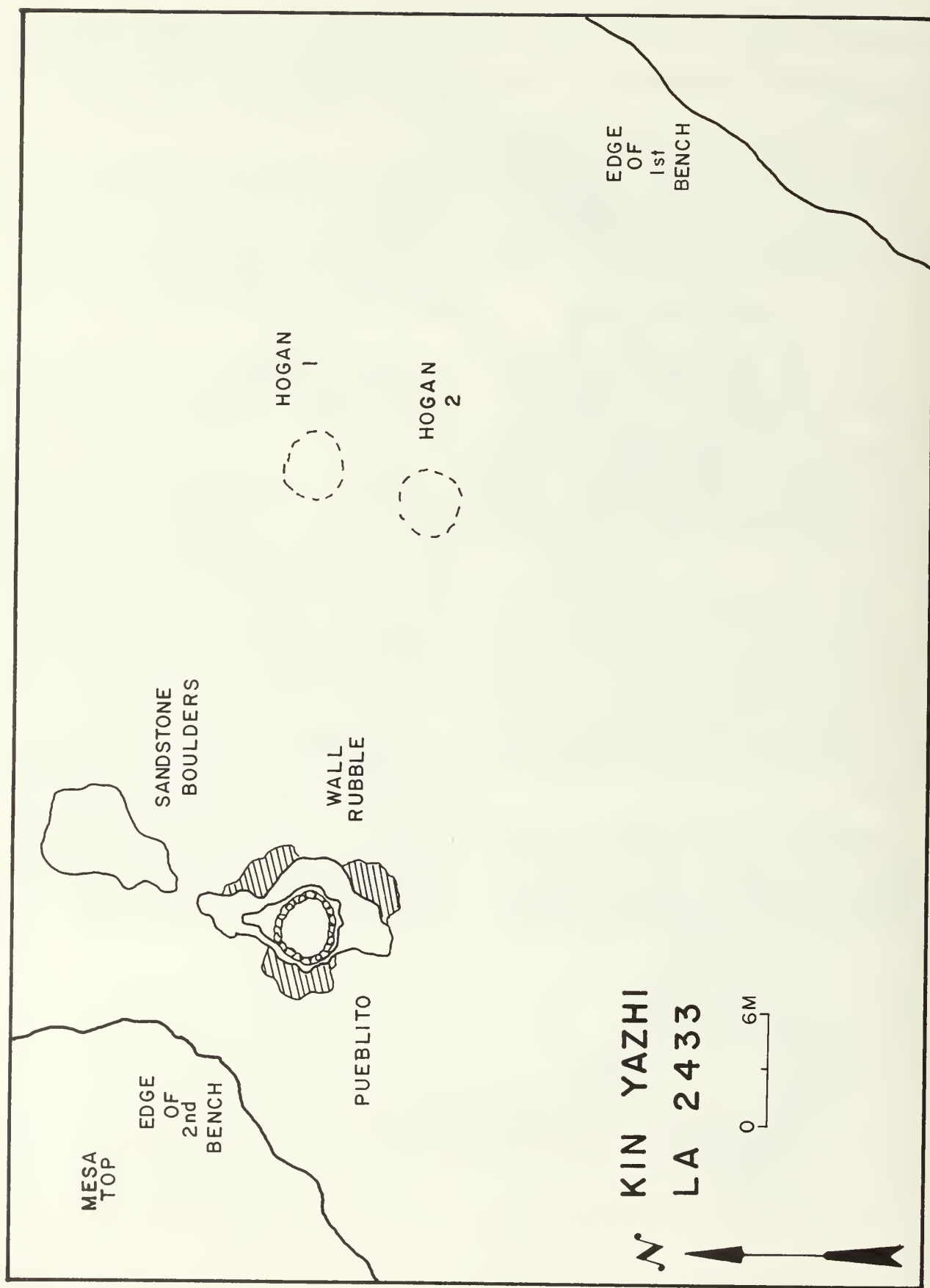




PHOTO 5 : TRUBY'S TOWER - LA 2434

**Site No.:** LA 2434

**Site Name (for registration):** Truby's Tower

**Other Designations:** LA 2434 (assigned as a result of M. Farmer's 1938 survey): Site 3/Largo #3 (University of Arizona - Malcolm F. Farmer 1938); LA 5669/RA 20/Largo #8 (San Juan Archaeological Society - Harry Hadlock 1959); E-CL-UL-Q (Navajo Land Claim - J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Surface collection - Farmer 1938; Navajo Land Claim 1957 (collections at Navajo Tribal Museum); San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association - #81-14-20); tree-ring collection - Navajo Land Claim 1957; National Register documentation - M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the east side of a small north-flowing tributary to Canyon Largo. There is a heavy growth of piñon and juniper that partially blocks the view of Largo Canyon. The benches and mesas northeast of Largo and portions of the tributary canyon are easily visible.

**Description:** The site consists of a two-story tower pueblito perched on a circular sandstone outcrop with one room below. One forked-stick hogan was reported by a previous survey. A hatchway in the lower room's roof probably was the means of entry into the tower. There is one external southeast-facing door and one internal door connecting the two ground-

floor rooms of the tower. The tower contains the remnants of a hooded fireplace, other fire pits, a masonry fireplace, loopholes, extant rafters on the second-story, a vertical door post, and sections of original mortar and plaster.

Over 1000 sherds, mostly Dinétah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome, were collected by the Navajo Land Claim. A few tradewares were also collected (Zia, Santa Ana, Zuni-Acoma, and Tewa). Farmer reported finding two hammerstones, and a later collection included a shaft straightener.

**Dating:** The Navajo Land Claim's tree-ring samples produced the following dates:

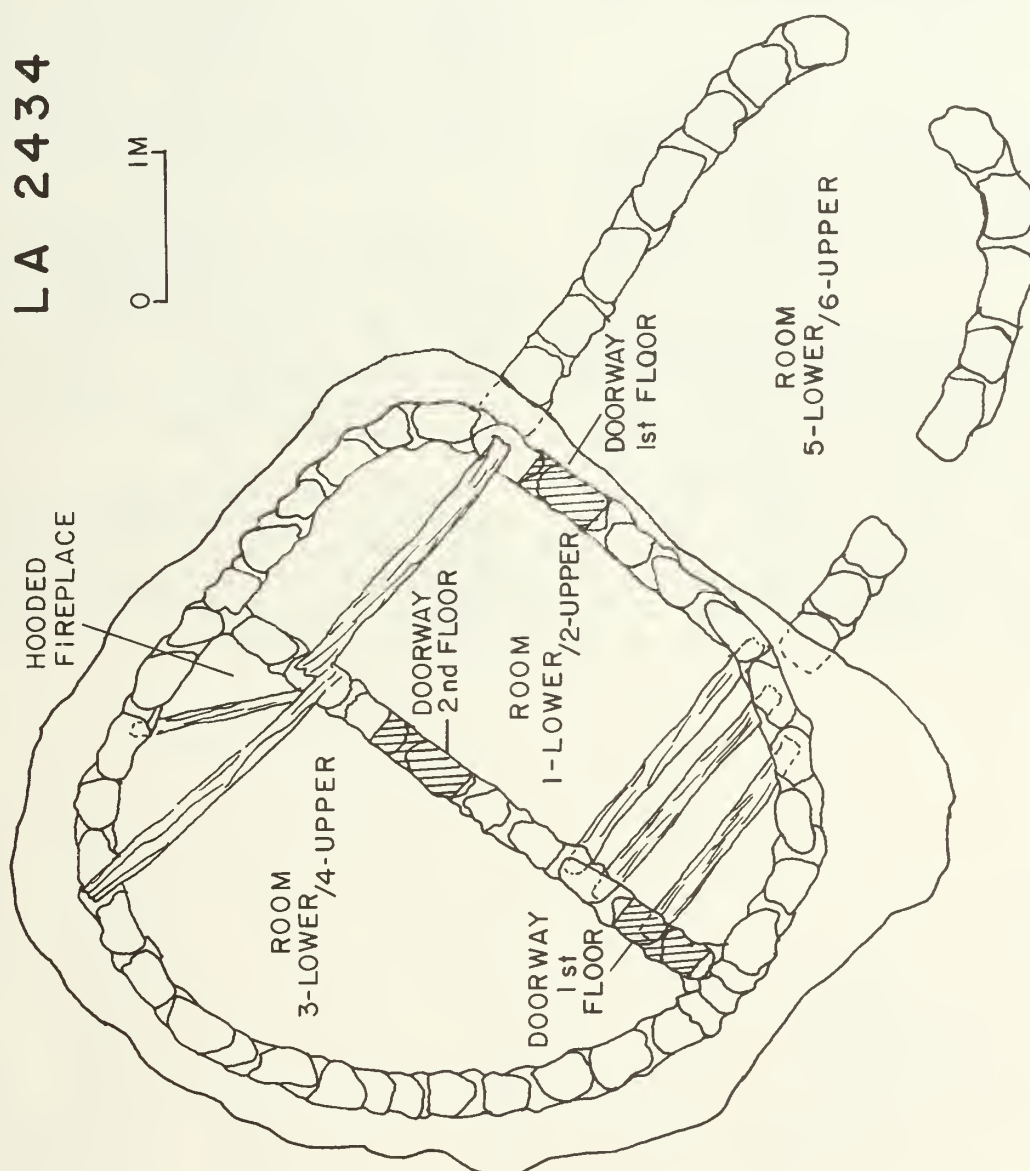
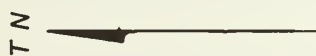
1721	1744
1730	1745
1732+G	1748+G
1743G	1752

**Condition:** The north, south and east portions of the tower are in excellent condition, but the west part has fallen. Preventive stabilization would benefit the site. There is only a small amount of fill (ca. 10cm) in the tower, but the room at the base of the outcrop probably has about 40cm of fill. The trash areas appear to be a maximum of 20cm deep.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential contribution to archeological studies. The potential for acquiring data pertaining to subsistence activities, social organization, and warfare is good. Although a considerable amount of pottery was removed from the site, there are still hundreds of sherds on the site that may be used for archeological studies.

# TRUBY'S TOWER

LA 2434





**Site No.:** LA 2435 and LA 2436

**Site Name (for registration):** Rincon Largo Ruin

**Other Designations:** Pueblito – LA 2436/Site No. 11/Rincon Largo #5 and Stone rings – LA 2435/Site No. 10/Rincon Largo #4 (University of Arizona – Malcolm F. Farmer 1938); E-CL-UL-00 (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and David M. Brugge 1959); possibly Mud Lake Rincon site

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Visited by Van Valkenburgh 1937; surface collections – Farmer 1938 and Navajo Land Claim 1959; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on an arm of the mesa which protrudes north into a major canyon. The masonry structures (originally recorded as LA 2436) sit on a sandstone crag that caps an underlying clay/shale deposit. The stone circles (originally recorded as LA 2435), which also form part of the site, are on the clay-shale bench that extends northeast from the sandstone crag. The vegetation is a sparse piñon-juniper woodland with a thin understory of grass, sage, cacti, and small shrubs. The Tower of the Standing God is visible to the

south-southeast. The site also commands a view down canyon, northeast, to its mouth.

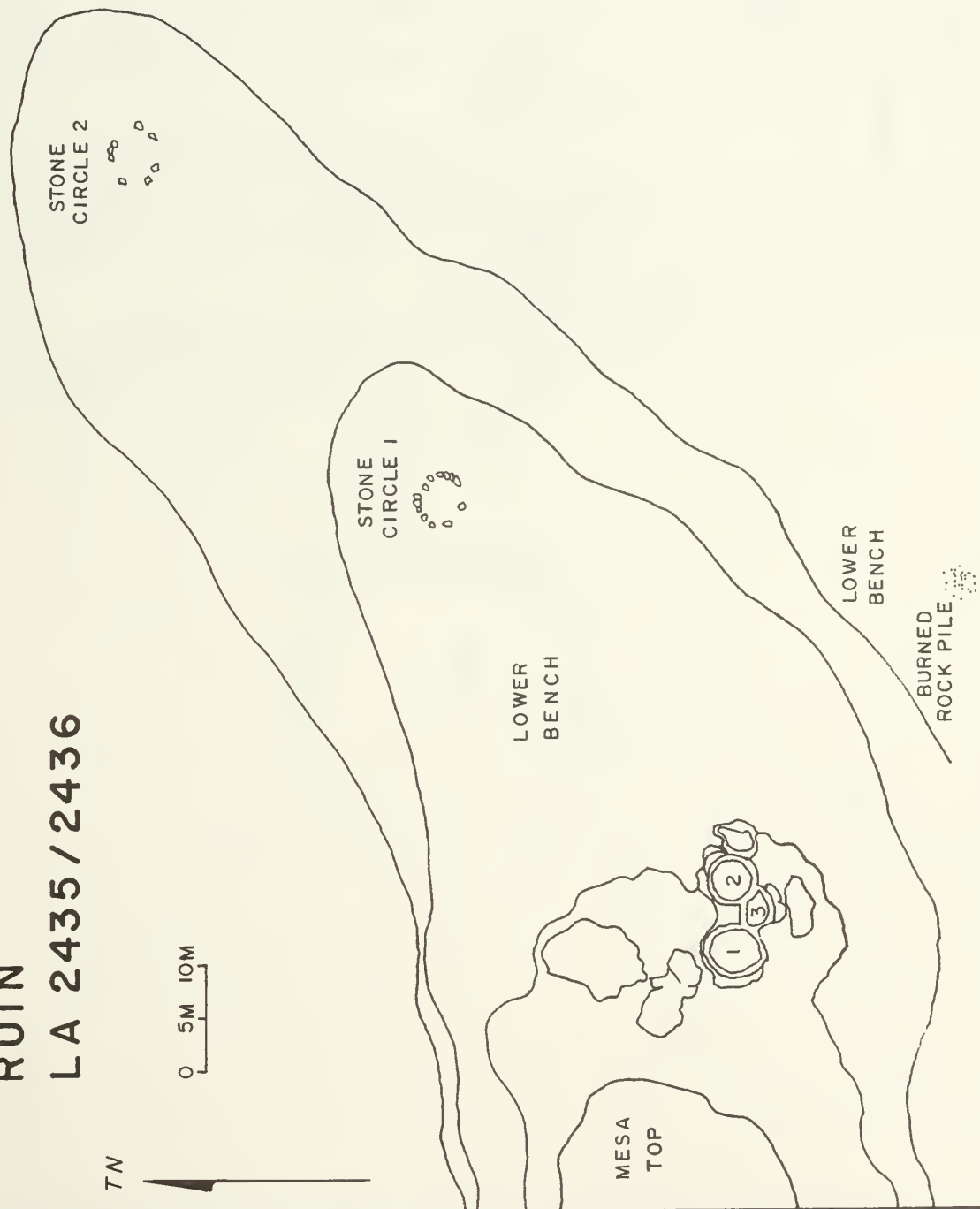
**Description:** The site consists of two roughly circular rooms connected by a small semicircular room (passage?) which sit on a sandstone crag. Downslope to the northeast are two large stone circles (probably hogan foundations), about 6 to 8m in diameter. Trash deposits occur around the stone circles and at the base of the crag. A pile of burned sandstone lies southeast of the pueblito. Previous surveys recorded three projectile points, a polishing stone, an arrow shaft smoother, burned bone, and Dinetah Gray sherds. The hogans and midden areas probably contain about 20 to 30cm of cultural fill.

**Condition:** The masonry structure is in poor condition. The maximum wall height is approximately 70cm. No roofing elements remain. There is no evidence of vandalism although many names are inscribed on the sandstone faces below the pueblito, apparently from visitors to the site over the past 50 years. The site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** This property is significant principally for its potential contribution to historical archeological studies. It contains midden deposits that may be used for studies of economics. The site may be useful for studies of defensive locations.

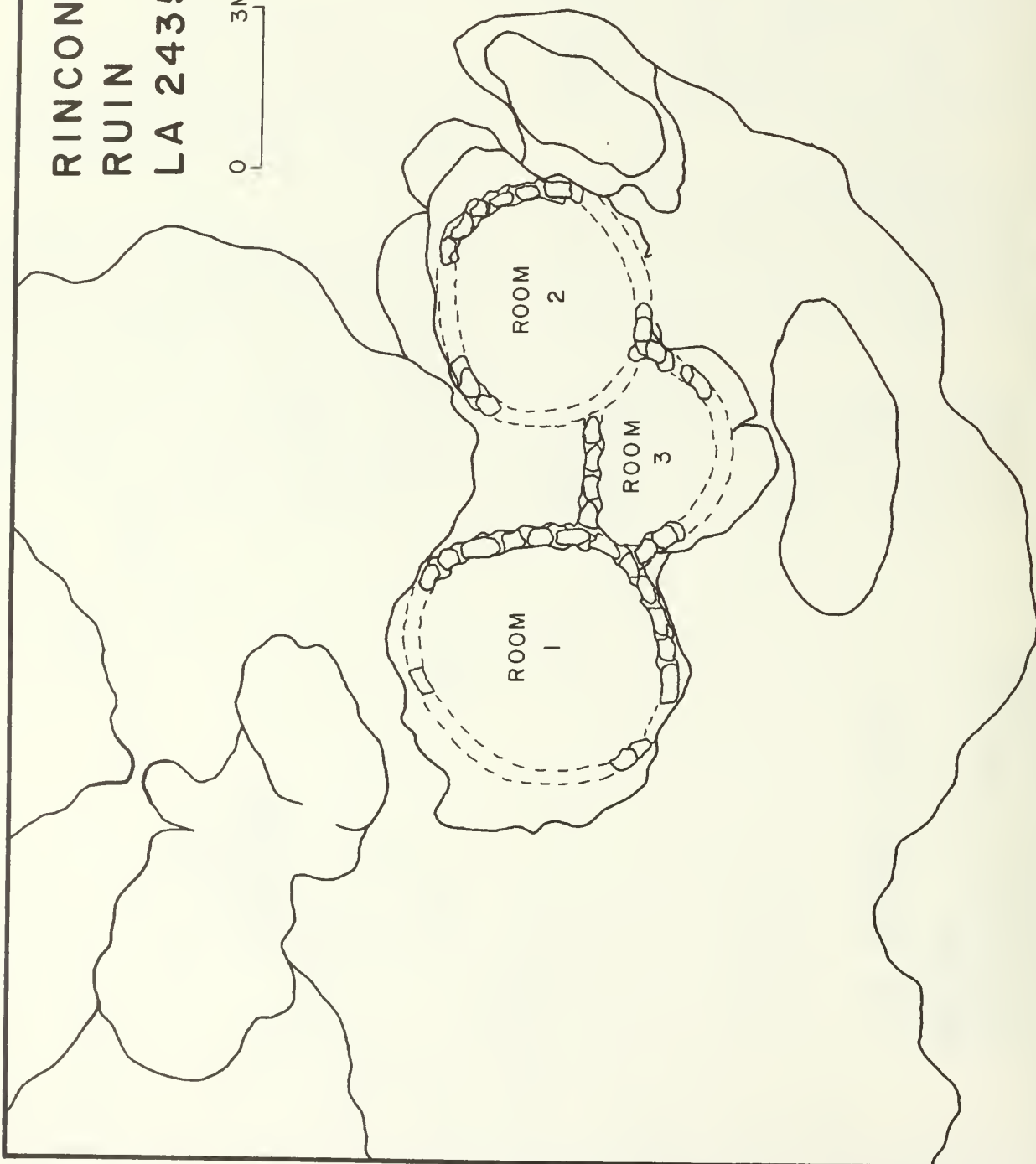
RINCON LARGO  
RUIN  
LA 2435/2436

TN



RINCON LARGO  
RUIN  
LA 2435 / 2436

0 3M



**Site No.:** LA 5047

**Site Name (for registration):** Simon Canyon

**Other Designations:** SJ 117 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1969)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Stabilization – BLM 1974; surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is perched on a large boulder on the east bank of Simon Canyon. The boulder is on the first bench above the streambed, directly above a spring. The area is generally within a piñon-juniper woodland but riparian vegetation occurs along the bottom of the wash.

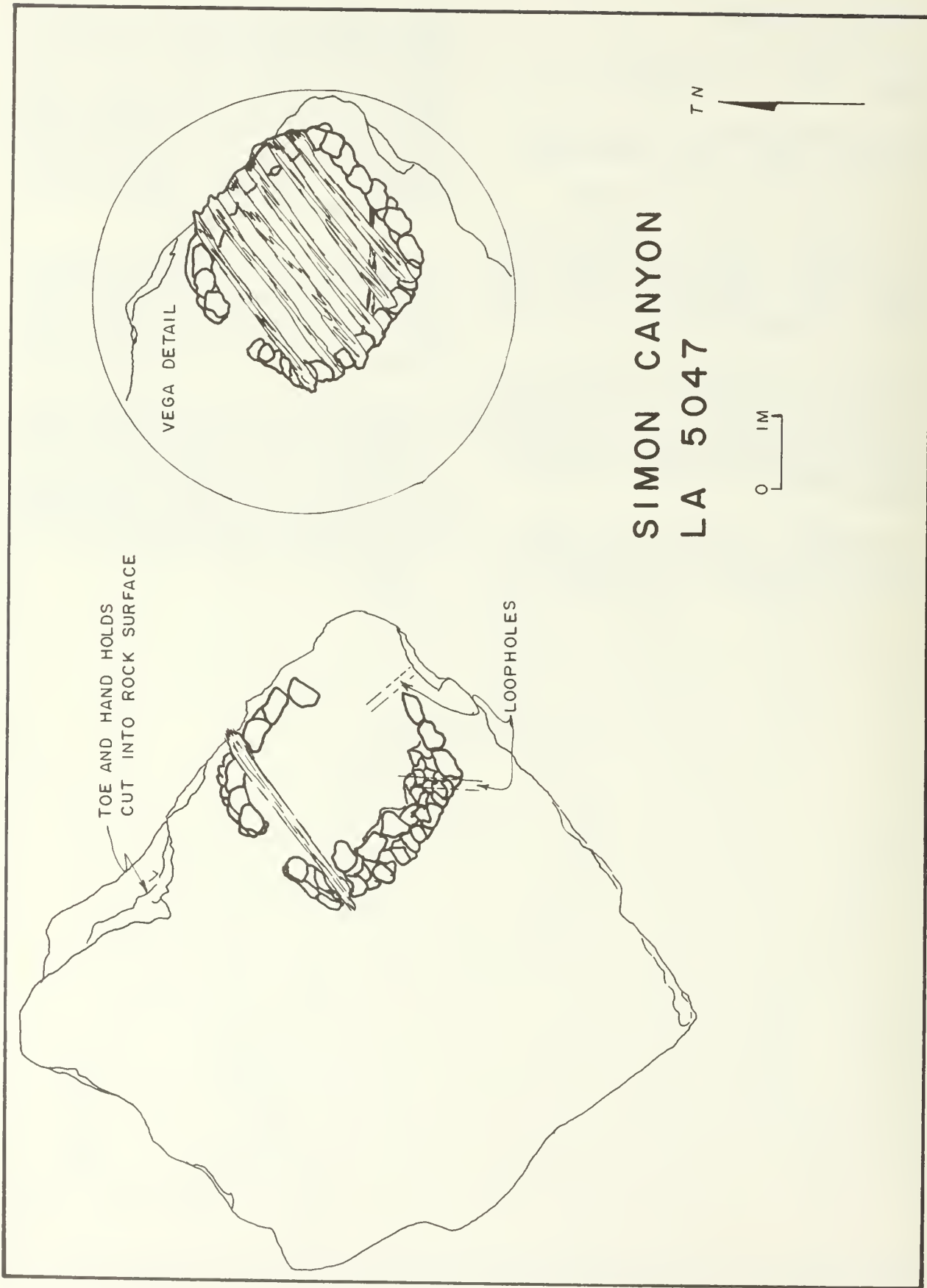
**Description:** The site currently consists of a single-room masonry structure and a thin scatter of sherds distributed over the bench. The

structure is on the highest point of the boulder which towers about 20 feet above the bench. A set of hand and footholds carved in the sandstone can only be reached by a ladder. The door to the structure faces northwest. Wall stones on the roof of the structure suggested to the stabilization crew that there had been a second-story. Sparse trash (Dinetah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome) surrounding the boulder was noted by earlier surveys.

**Condition:** BLM stabilization arrested the structural deterioration of the roof and walls. To accomplish this objective, the BLM partially reconstructed the door and roof. Although the door lintels are modern replacements, original roof beams remain.

**Significance:** The Simon Canyon site is the most northwesterly of the known pueblitos. It varies from the others in its isolation and in its lack of a view of surrounding terrain. It may represent a variant of the typical social and defensive organization. It contains potentially datable roof beams and is significant principally for its contribution to archeological studies.





SIMON CANYON  
LA 5047

**Site No.:** LA 5649

**Site Name (for registration):** Delgadito Pueblito

**Other Designations:** LA 5649 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 1 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Jesse B. Goodwin 1959)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** Delgadito Pueblito is built on an isolated boulder in a cul-de-sac of Delgadito Canyon. A dry wash passes west of the pueblito. Gray silty deposits have accumulated in the cul-de-sac. The vegetation consists of a sparse piñon-juniper woodland mixed with sage and grasses.

**Description:** The site consists of a three-room pueblito on a boulder top, a two-room masonry unit at the base of the boulder, and a buried mound of fire-cracked rock. The three boulder-top rooms are built within a continuous outer wall that conforms to the shape of the boulder. A few weathered roof beams and

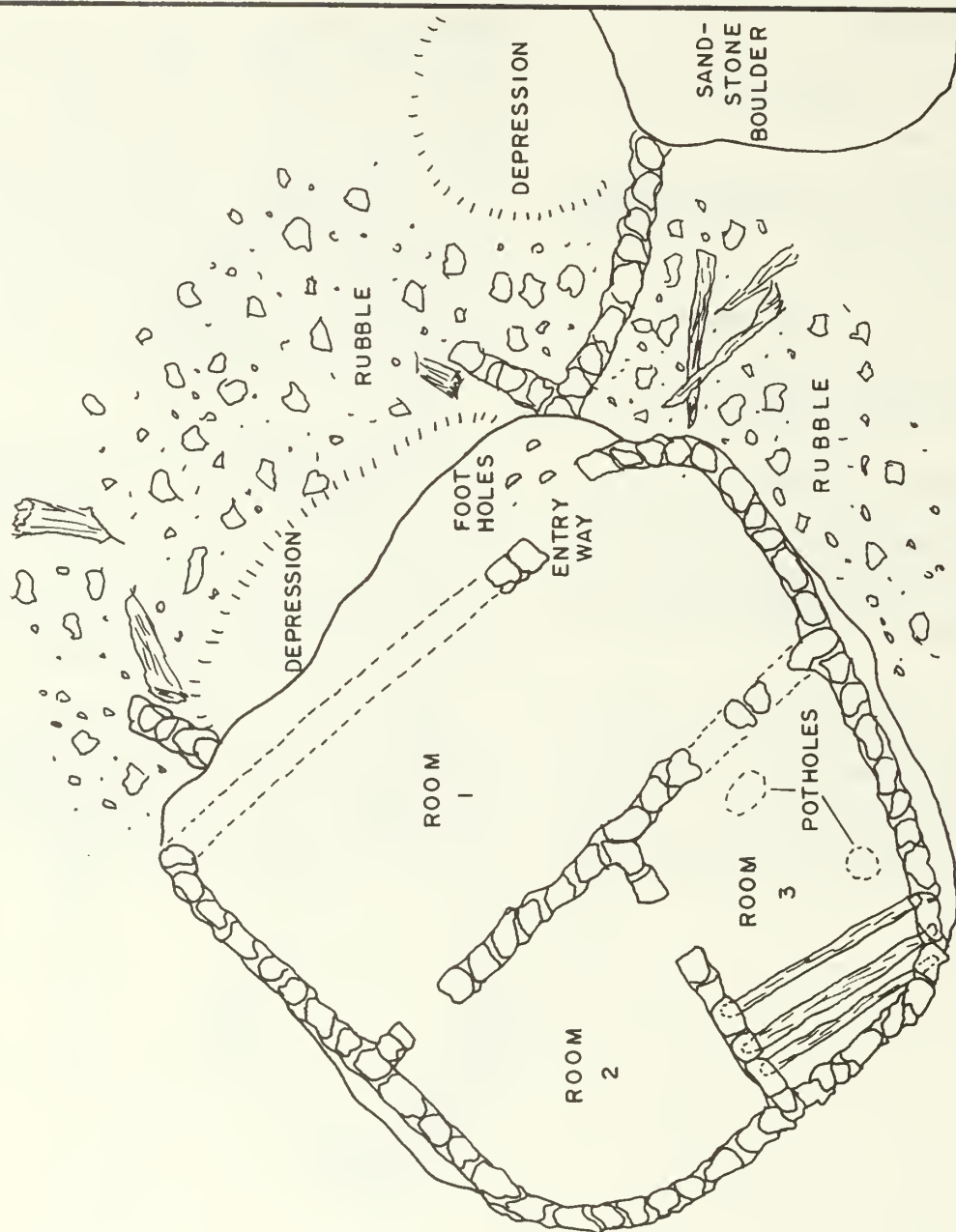
diagonal corner poles remain. Loopholes are also present. Fallen roof beams protrude from the rooms at the base of the boulder. The lower rooms probably provided access to the upper rooms. A series of hand and footholds are also carved in the boulder above the lower rooms. The upper and lower rooms appear to contain about 40 to 60cm of fill. The absence of surface artifacts is explained by the accumulation of alluvium. Pothunting in the burned rock pile indicates there may be an accumulation of 60 or more centimeters of alluvium below the boulder.

**Condition:** A small amount of digging is evident in the upper rooms. A large pothole was dug in the burned rock pile between July 1985 and July 1986. Another pothole, exposing a buried midden, was dug between July and August 1986. The walls of the pueblito range from about 60cm to 2m high. There appears to be a minimum of 40cm of fill throughout the site which protects underlying cultural deposits.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential to contribute to archeological studies. The high probability of buried deposits makes the site especially important for studies of subsistence, economics, social relations, demography, and defense.

DELGADITO  
PUEBLITO  
LA 5649

TN



**Site No.:** LA 5657

**Site Name (for registration):** Largo School Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 5657 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); AR-30-01-2000 (BLM 1974); Largo #1A and #1B/RA 8 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1958); LA 6351 (Museum of New Mexico – John P. Wilson 1972); E-CL-UL-P (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957 and 1959)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Stabilization – BLM 1974; ceramic collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-2-26); Navajo Land Claim (collections at Navajo Tribal Museum), and E. Murphy (School of American Research); recorded by Richard Van Valkenburgh 1937; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site occupies the point of a sandstone ridge on the south side of Largo Canyon where a small side canyon enters Largo from the south. The site has a view of Largo Canyon for several miles downstream and of Ice Canyon which enters Largo immediately across the canyon from the site. The area is covered with a piñon-juniper woodland with stands of sage to the east and south and in the valley bottom. An alcove in the side canyon

may have been the source of a spring, seep, or water collection area.

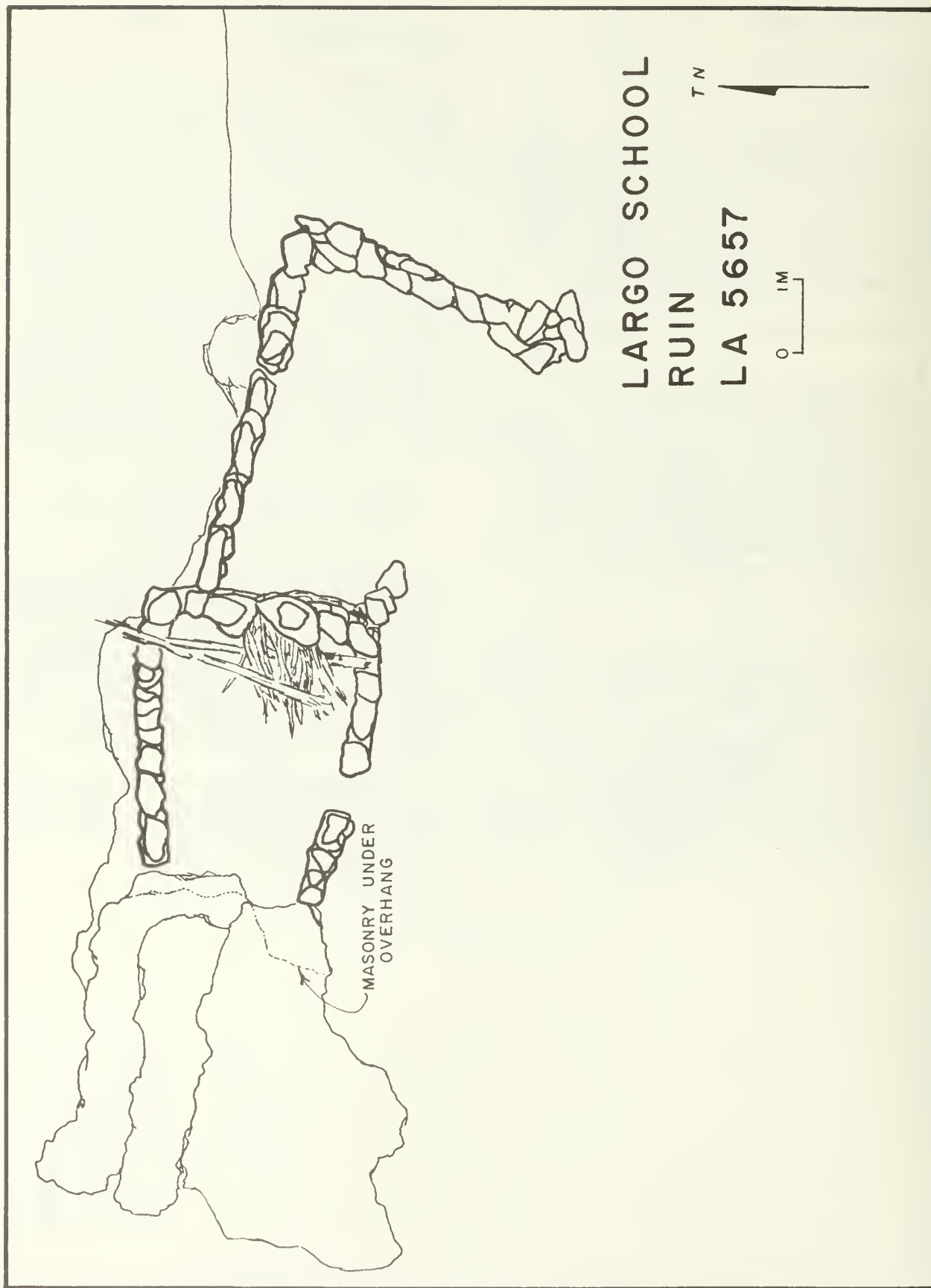
**Description:** The site consists of two pueblito units – one on the point (Largo #1A) and one on a detached boulder about 150m to the west (Largo #1B). Currently the main pueblito consists of two masonry rooms, one with a partial intact roof. Remains of a third room to the east (noted by earlier surveyors) are no longer visible. The second pueblito consists of a foundation on a large detached boulder. Two burned rock piles and trash deposits occur on the ledge below the main pueblito. Earlier surveys recorded Dinetah Gray as the principal pottery type. Gobernador Polychrome, Jemez Black-on-white, and pottery from Zia, Santa Ana, and Acoma also were present. The trash area has an apparent depth of 20 to 30cm. A possible hogan was reported in 1957 but was not relocated.

**Dating:** Navajo Land Claim tree-ring collection: AD 1721+, 1736, 1736, 1737g.

**Condition:** The remnants of the roof of the easternmost room in the main pueblito have completely disappeared. The walls currently stand about 10 to 40cm high in this room. The walls of the adjoining room vary in height from about 60cm to 2m. The site has been stabilized to retard additional damage from visitors. The stabilization enhances the interpretative qualities of the site. The site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site contains datable timbers, interpretable architecture, and samples of artifacts. It has the potential to contain faunal and botanical materials as well.





**Site No.:** LA 5658

**Site Name (for registration):** Compressor Station Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 5658 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 9 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Hadlock, Harris, and Merrill 1959); LA 19968/SJC-465 (San Juan College – Pam Smith 1979 and Dabney Ford 1979)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Ceramic collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-3-10); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the second broad bench on the south side of Largo Canyon. It sits on the point of land between Largo and a major side canyon, which enters Largo from the south. The view is probably obscured by the heavy growth of piñon and juniper woodland around the site.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito on a free-standing sandstone outcrop, a burned rock pile, a slab-lined bin and forked-stick hogan, and an alcove containing a seep/spring. The pueblito consists of four ground floor rooms representing three construction episodes. The two rooms representing the second construction episode, and possibly the original single room

unit, show evidence of having had a second story. The fourth room may never have been roofed but may have been the means of entering the other three rooms. A log ladder in this room, which provided access to the pueblito, disappeared between 1979 and 1985. The walls are pierced by loopholes and a diagonal beam in one corner appears to be the remains of a hooded fireplace. Surface artifacts are sparse – principally Dinétah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome sherds. Previous surveys also recorded a sandstone metate and a corncob.

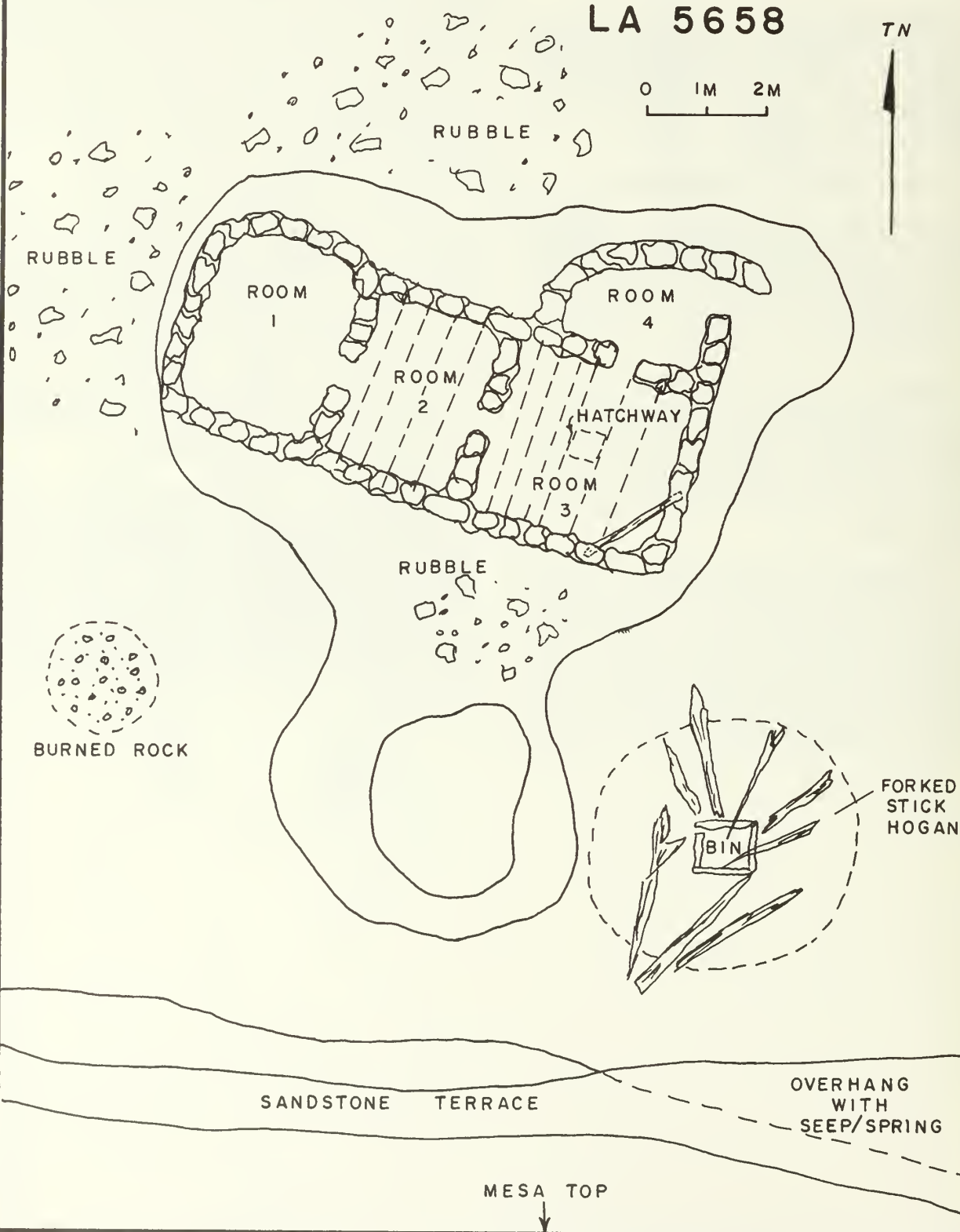
**Condition:** The walls stand between 40cm and 2.6m high. Approximately 30cm of fill remains in the pueblito. Cultural deposits in the hogan and trash areas range from 10cm to about 40cm. The bin in the forked-stick hogan has been dug out and there is a small pothole in one of the rooms of the pueblito. Primary beams and other sections of roof remain in two rooms. Although the upper surfaces of some of the beams are heavily weathered, the protected lower surfaces are well preserved. The pueblito would benefit from judicious stabilization.

**Significance:** This site is significant because it will probably yield midden deposits and tree-ring samples. Its architecture deviates slightly from the norm in that its corners are squared rather than rounded, but it is otherwise representative of pueblitos and hogans of this period. It shows evidence of both construction additions and remodeling that may reflect changes in the social structure of the site during its occupation.

COMPRESSOR  
STATION RUIN  
LA 5658

TN

0 1M 2M



**Site No.:** LA 5659

**Site Name (for registration):** Gould Pass Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 5659 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 10/Rincon Harris #1A & 1B (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harris, Hadlock, and Merrill 1959)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-4-26); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the eastern lobe of a mesa on the divide separating Largo and Carizo canyons. The pueblito is built on a sandstone outcrop with a view to the south and east of the sage-covered mesa surrounding Crow Canyon. To the north, the Gomez Point site is in view and to the east can be seen the Gomez Canyon Pueblito. Gobernador Knob is visible on the horizon.

**Description:** The site contains a pueblito, two burned rock piles (one with the remains of a sweatlodge), and two forked-stick hogans. The pueblito consists of two rooms and wall remnants of at least one more room. The two rooms were built consecutively. The roof of the later room is nearly intact. It also contains a ver-

tical pole wall adjacent to the north-facing door and a beam set diagonally across a corner. Loopholes in this room point north to Adolfo Canyon and northwest. The earlier room appears to have burned. Burned roof beams lie below the outcrop and charcoal occurs both in the fill of the room and below it.

Artifacts occur in midden areas both below the pueblito and around the hogans. Dinetah Gray ceramics are the principal component of the assemblage.

**Condition:** The forked-stick hogans have collapsed and one is disarticulated. The midden is apparently shallow except in small pockets. Fill within the structures is about 15cm deep. The remaining walls of the earlier pueblito room stand from 30cm to 1.6m high. Wall remnants representing another room or structure are less than 40cm high. A pothole has been dug in the rubble below the pueblito and in one of the burned rock piles. The pueblito would benefit from stabilization, especially to protect the roof against further deterioration and the rest of the structure from visitor impacts.

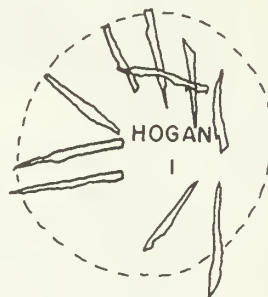
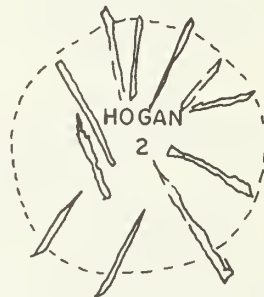
**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential contribution to historic archeological studies. It contains data pertinent to studies of visual communication and defensive strategies. It also has the potential to yield datable wood, environmental samples, and artifact data that reflect economic and social aspects of life during this period.



GOULD PASS  
RUIN  
LA 5659

TN

0 1M 2M



BENCH  
EDGE

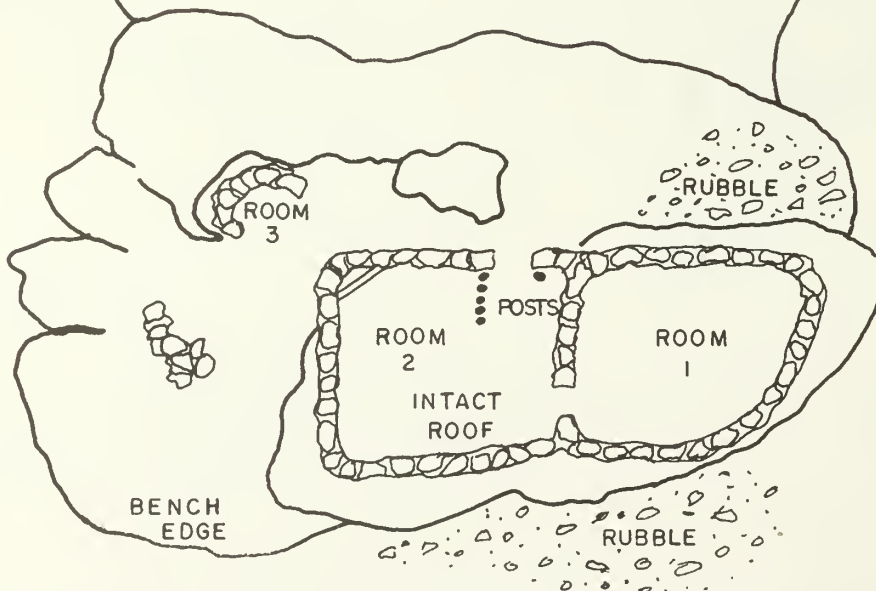




PHOTO 6 : GOULD PASS RUIN — LA 5659

**Site No.:** LA 5660

**Site Name (for registration):** Shaft House

**Other Designation:** LA 5660 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); Crow Canyon #5 (Harry Hadlock – notes); Crowfoot Ruin/LA10826 (Museum of New Mexico – Stewart Peckham 1972); LA 13271/Site II (J. Loring Haskell 1974); RA 11 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Hadlock, Harris, Merrill 1959); NM-30-01-015 (BLM)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Stabilization – National Park Service 1973; monitoring of stabilization – BLM 1981; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a narrow ledge of the northeastern branch of Cuervo (Crow) Canyon. The ledge faces south and lies just below the rim of the mesa. Vegetation on the ledge consists of occasional piñon, juniper, sage, cacti, and grasses. The site commands a view of Cuervo Canyon downstream for about one mile and from the eastern end of the site, another Gobernador Phase site (The Wall) is clearly visible.

**Description:** The site comprises 14 rooms on two levels. A two-story masonry tower, from which the site gets its name, connects the two

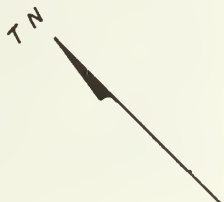
levels. A two to three meter high masonry wall closes off the eastern edge of the ledge. Several square rooms and small, walled storage areas are present on the lower ledge. The upper ledge contains a stairway leading through a doorway to three rooms. The outer wall along the upper ledge is pierced with a number of loopholes, one of which looks down the hatch of the access shaft. Sherds, principally Dinetah Gray, are scattered along the ledges below the structures. A notched log ladder, used to reach the second level, was in place until it was stolen about two years ago. Remnants of a defensive wall remain along the lower level.

**Condition:** Shaft House received emergency stabilization in 1973 and further stabilization measures were recommended in 1981. Minor impacts from visitors continue. Most of the timbers from the lower level have been removed and stored on the upper level. Walls on the lower level vary in height from 50cm to 1.2m in the larger rooms and in other areas consist of low discontinuous walls. The tower is complete and virtually all of the upper level is intact. Trash deposits occur on the slopes and ledges below the structures. The site is otherwise environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture, which is particularly well-preserved in some areas, for its defensive aspects (defensive walls and position, and view of LA 55840) and because it contains potentially datable timbers that will aid in studies of social organization.

# SHAFT HOUSE LA 5660

0 10M



MESA TOP



DETAIL OF SHAFT  
AND  
UPPER LEVEL

0 5M



**Site No.:** LA 5661

**Site Name (for registration):** Pork Chop Pass Site

**Other Designations:** LA 5661 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 12/Pork Chop Pass Site #1 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1959); E-CL-LL-L (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald J. Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-6-11); surface collection and tree-ring collection – Navajo Land Claim (collection at Navajo Tribal Museum); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site sits high on a mesa on the side of Largo Canyon and commands a view of both sides of Largo for several miles downstream.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, a noncontiguous masonry structure, and trash deposits. The pueblito consists of three ground-floor rooms built in at least two construction episodes and a passageway (?) connecting two of the rooms. One of the two ovoid rooms, which rest on sandstone outcrops, contains a remnant of a second-story wall. The other ovoid room has a nearly intact roof which contains beams that had been burned and recycled as roof elements. A rectangular room was built between the two ovoid rooms in a low area of the outcrop. It apparently postdates at least one of the ovoid rooms. The pueblito contains features common to sites of this period – narrowed doorways, columnar masonry, north and east facing doors, beams cut by metal axe,

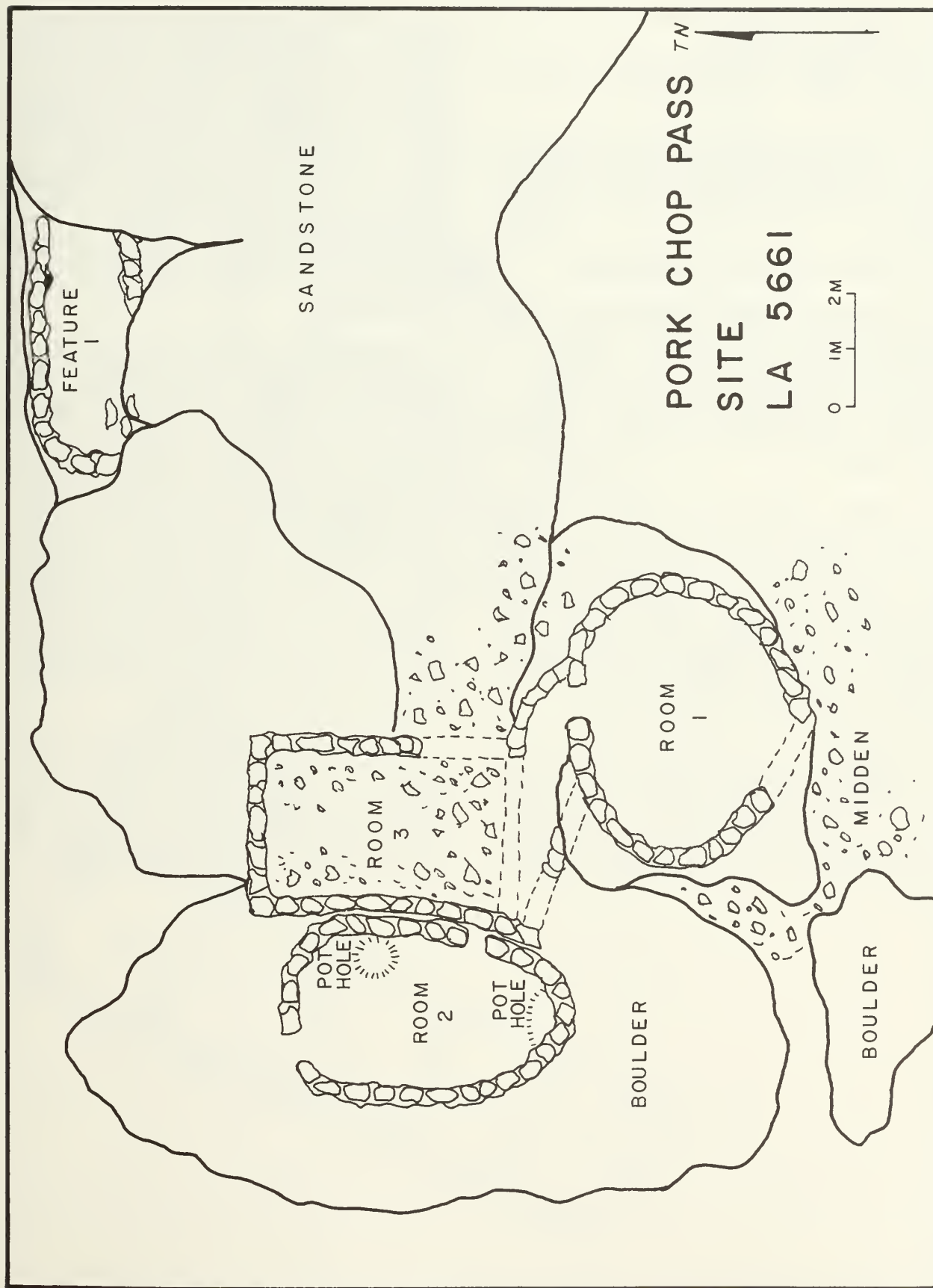
and an entrance passage. It differs in its overall pattern, however, as shown in the combination of rectangular and ovoid rooms and in the construction of a parallel abutting wall when the rectangular room was built. The site also contains evidence of a separate rectangular walled area (structure?) whose function is unclear. There is also evidence of a small crudely walled storage area in an overhand of the sandstone outcrop. Trash deposits occur in several places around the site. Dinetah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome are the most common artifacts. Earlier surveys also report the presence of Zia, Zuni, and Acoma wares.

**Dating:** The Navajo Land Claim acquired the following tree-ring dates:

1725	1739	1742G	1745+
1732+	1740+	1742G	1745B
1737+	1741	1744	1747
1738	1742	1745	

**Condition:** Two small potholes were found in one of the ovoid rooms. The walls of the rectangular room have a maximum height of about 80cm. The walls of the ovoid rooms stand approximately two meters high. The second story remnant stands about 1.4m above the first story ceiling. The ceiling of that room has burned and the south wall has collapsed outward. The walls of the single-storied ovoid room stand full height; part of the roof has deteriorated and one of the beams has cracked. The fill in the rooms varies from about 5cm to approximately 50cm. The trash deposits appear to range from surface scatters to deposits 25-30cm deep. The structures would benefit from stabilization to offset the impacts of visitors. Otherwise, the site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site is significant for historic archeological studies, for its architecture, and for data relating to trade, economics, and social organization.



**Site No.:** LA 5662

**Site Name (for registration):** Hooded Fireplace Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 5662 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); AR-30-01-12 (BLM 1974); RA 13 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1959)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-7-19); stabilization and collections – BLM 1974 (collections at Albuquerque District Office); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

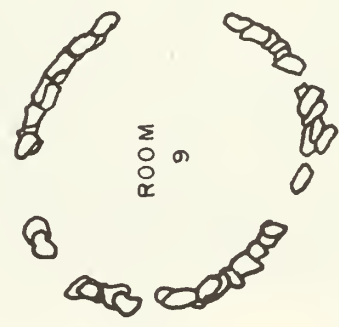
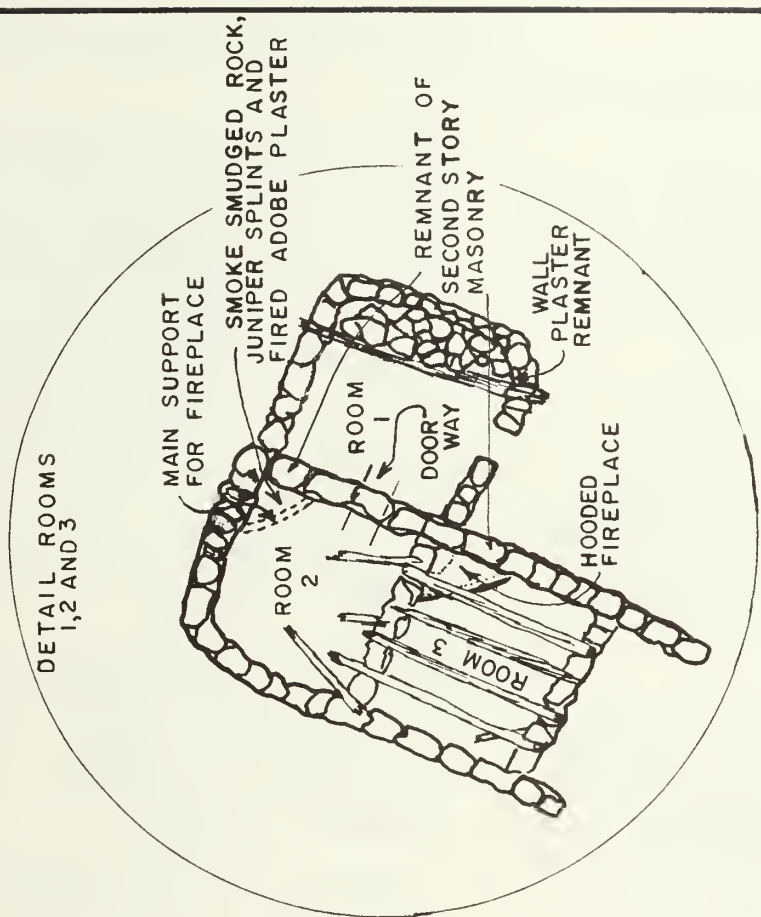
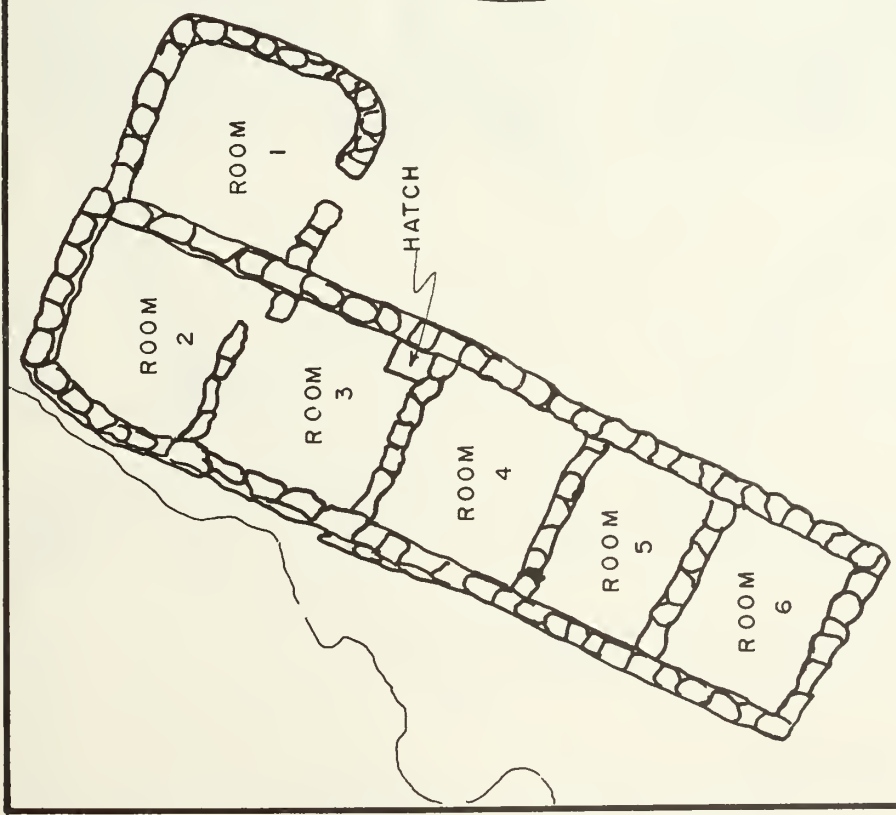
**Setting:** The site is on a low knoll on a sage-covered bench drained by a small tributary to Largo Canyon. The best views from the site are of the mesas on the north and east side of Largo Canyon. Hooded Fireplace has a view of the Palluche Butte Site, another Gobernador Phase site on the north side of Largo. Largo School Ruin is obscured by elevational differences and by the piñon-juniper cover, but smoke from Largo School Ruin would be visible.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, two large stone circles, and a scatter of surface artifacts. The pueblito is larger than most and contains at least six ground-floor rooms. At least three of these rooms apparently had second-story rooms. Remnants of a possible seventh ground-floor room also are

present. The two stone-based circles are probably hogan foundations. Trash is concentrated west of the pueblito and southeast of the stone circles and is scattered elsewhere on the site. Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray sheds are the most common surface artifacts. Previous surveys and excavation associated with the BLM stabilization recorded small side-notched projectile points, a worked flake, a sandstone metate fragment, a chert knife, an obsidian knife, a wooden awl, and deer bones. One intact hooded fireplace remains; the remains of a second were found in a burned room.

**Condition:** The site has been stabilized to retard environmental and visitor impacts. The stabilization is consonant with the style and integrity of the pueblito and enhances the interpretative qualities of the site. The walls of the pueblito stand from 20cm high (at the south end) to approximately 2.2m (at the east end). One entire roof and two partial roofs remain. Burned roof beams occurred in one room. This room apparently burned between 1959 and 1974. One pothole beneath the extant hooded fireplace was filled with cement by the BLM stabilization crew. Approximately 30 to 50cm of fill are present in the pueblito. The stone circles stand 20 to 60cm high and have an undetermined amount of fill. Notched log ladders noted in 1959 are no longer present.

**Significance:** Hooded Fireplace Ruin is significant for its architectural features, for the presence of intact deposits both within the pueblito and in the external areas of the site, for the availability of preserved wood for tree-ring samples, and for its lack of defensive features.



# HOODED FIREPLACE LA 5662



0 1M



**Site No.:** LA 5664

**Site Name (for registration):** Split Rock Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 5664 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); AR-30-01-005 (BLM 1974); RA 15/LA 5664 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1959); E-CL-UL-SS (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and David M. Brugge 1959)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-9-18); surface collection – Navajo Land Claim; stabilization – BLM 1974; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a broad sage-covered bench on the east side of Largo Canyon between Dogie Canyon and Tapacito Creek. Widely scattered piñon and juniper also occur in the vicinity. The pueblito is on a large boulder (approx. 40 ft. high) detached from the cliff which rises above the bench on the east.

The site has a view of the bench, the opposite side of Largo Canyon, the Palluche Butte site (another Gobernador Phase site), and a mile-long stretch of Largo Canyon to the northwest. Smoke from Tapacito Ruin could be

seen from the site although the ruin itself is not visible.

**Description:** The site consists of the boulder-top pueblito, poorly visible remains of structures at the base of the crag, and two forked-stick hogans. The pueblito contains four rooms and remnants of a wall that probably encircled the top of the boulder. Two of the rooms are contiguous; two others appear to be free-standing. There are two extant doorways, a loophole, and a probable passageway between two rooms. The westernmost room appears to have been a later addition. Access to the crag is through the split in the boulder and is impossible without a ladder. Two areas under the boulder apparently contained small structures (either hogans or masonry rooms). Ceramics are scattered below the boulder – Dineta Gray and Gobernador Polychrome dominate.

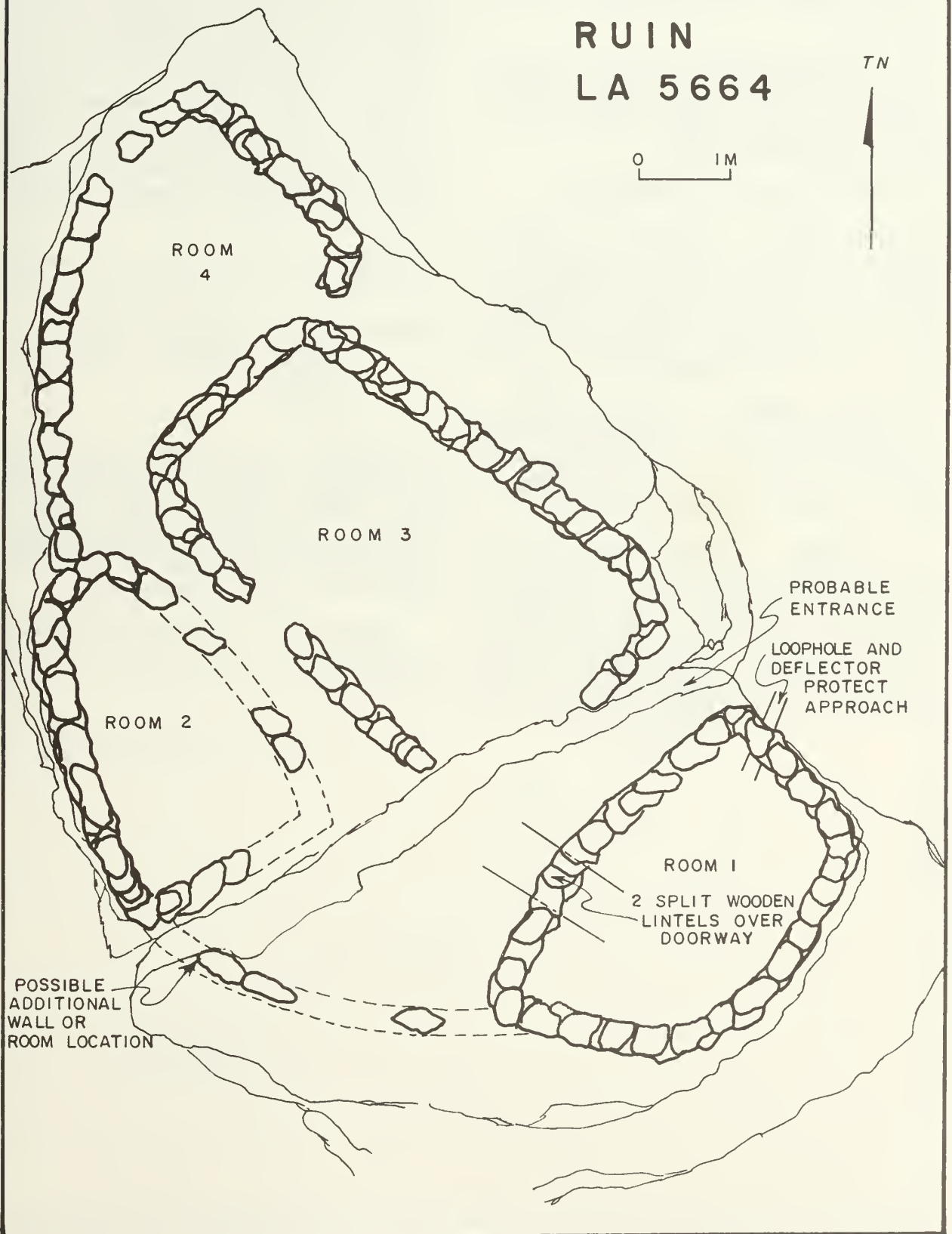
**Condition:** Few intact timbers survive in the ruin. The wall height varies from a few foundation stones to about 1.4m in the easternmost room. The deposits in the rooms and below the boulder are only a few centimeters thick, but protected areas under the boulder may contain 50cm or more of deposition.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for certain aspects of its archaeological data. It has the potential to contain preserved faunal and floral materials and other economic indicators; it may also contribute to studies of warfare and raiding and of visual communications systems.

SPLIT ROCK  
RUIN  
LA 5664

TN

0 1M



**Site No.:** LA 5665

**Site Name (for registration):** Adolfo Canyon Site

**Other Designations:** LA 5665 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 16/Gould Pass #1 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1959); Site I (J. Loring Haskell 1974)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Excavation of pueblito, hogans, and trash – Haskell 1974; surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-10-28); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a rock outcrop overlooking Adolfo Canyon. The area is one of piñon-juniper woodland. Gould Pass Ruin, Gomez Canyon Site, and a large section of Adolfo Canyon can be seen from the site.

**Description:** The site consists of a three-room, single-story pueblito, an extensive midden area, and six forked-stick hogans on the crest of the ridge. Two more hogans, two ramadas, and a pile of burned sandstone were also reported on the bench below. Portions of the pueblito, hogans, and trash have been excavated. The excavation principally recovered Dinetah Gray

and Gobernador Polychrome ceramics. A sherd of Puname Polychrome from the Keresan pueblos was also found. Several manos and abraders were found. The chipped stone assemblage was sparse including only a few flakes and an obsidian scraper. No European trade goods were found. The faunal assemblage included antelope, mule deer, mountain sheep, rabbit, sheep, and horse. Many of these specimens bore butchering marks. Pollen samples also revealed the presence of corn, portulaca, pine, juniper, chenopods, amaranths, Mormon tea, and sage.

**Dating:** Haskell obtained the following tree-ring dates:

Hogans:	1733vv	Sweatlodge:	1865+vv
	1747+v	Pueblito:	1747rB
	1725++v		
	1749+vv		
	1751v		

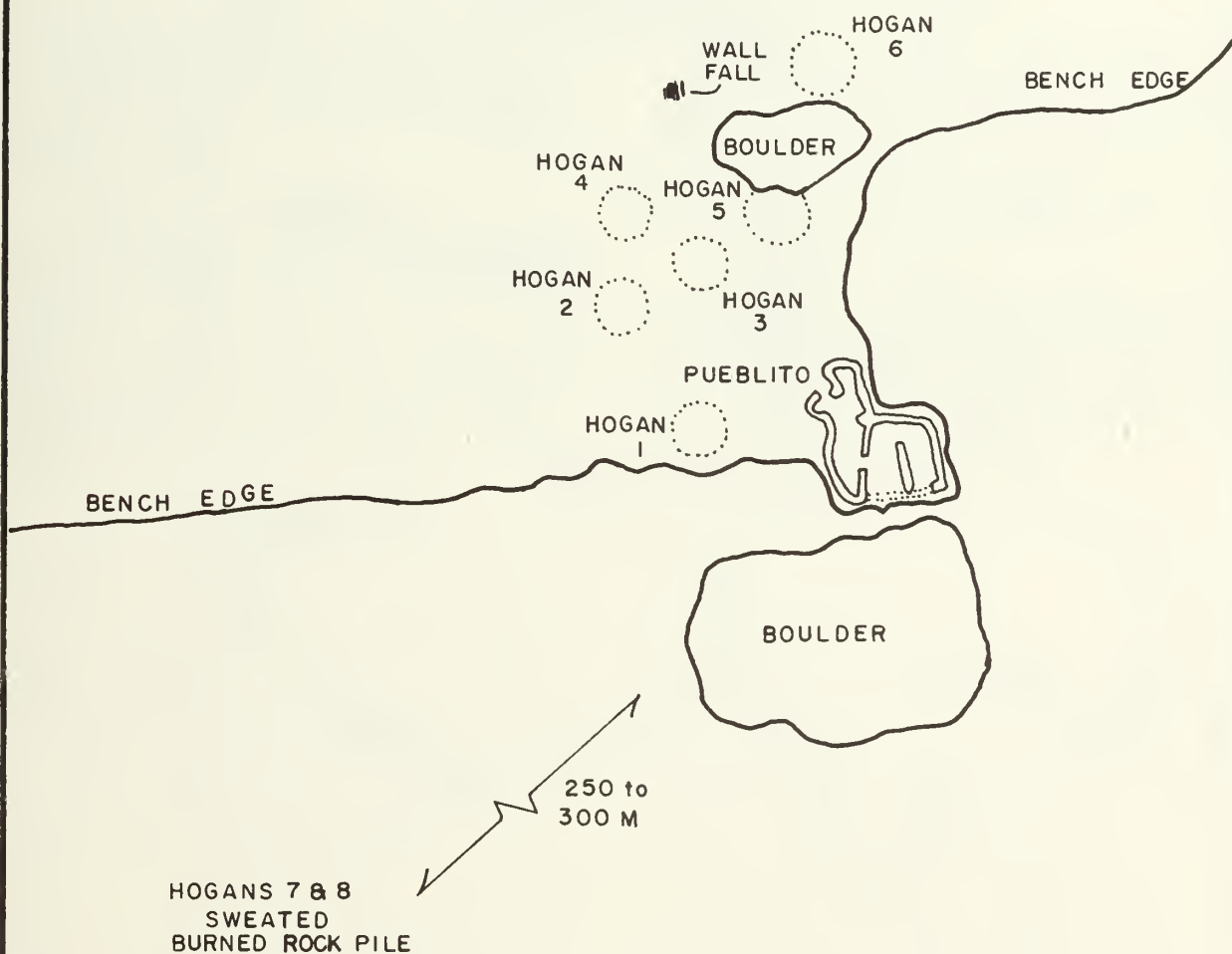
**Condition:** Substantial midden deposits remain to the northwest of the pueblito. Some trash deposits remain in areas below the pueblito. The walls of the pueblito are missing in some sections but where present stand 40cm to 1.6m high. All the hogans are collapsed and disarticulated as a result of excavation.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its contributions to historic archeology.

# ADOLFO CANYON SITE LA 5665

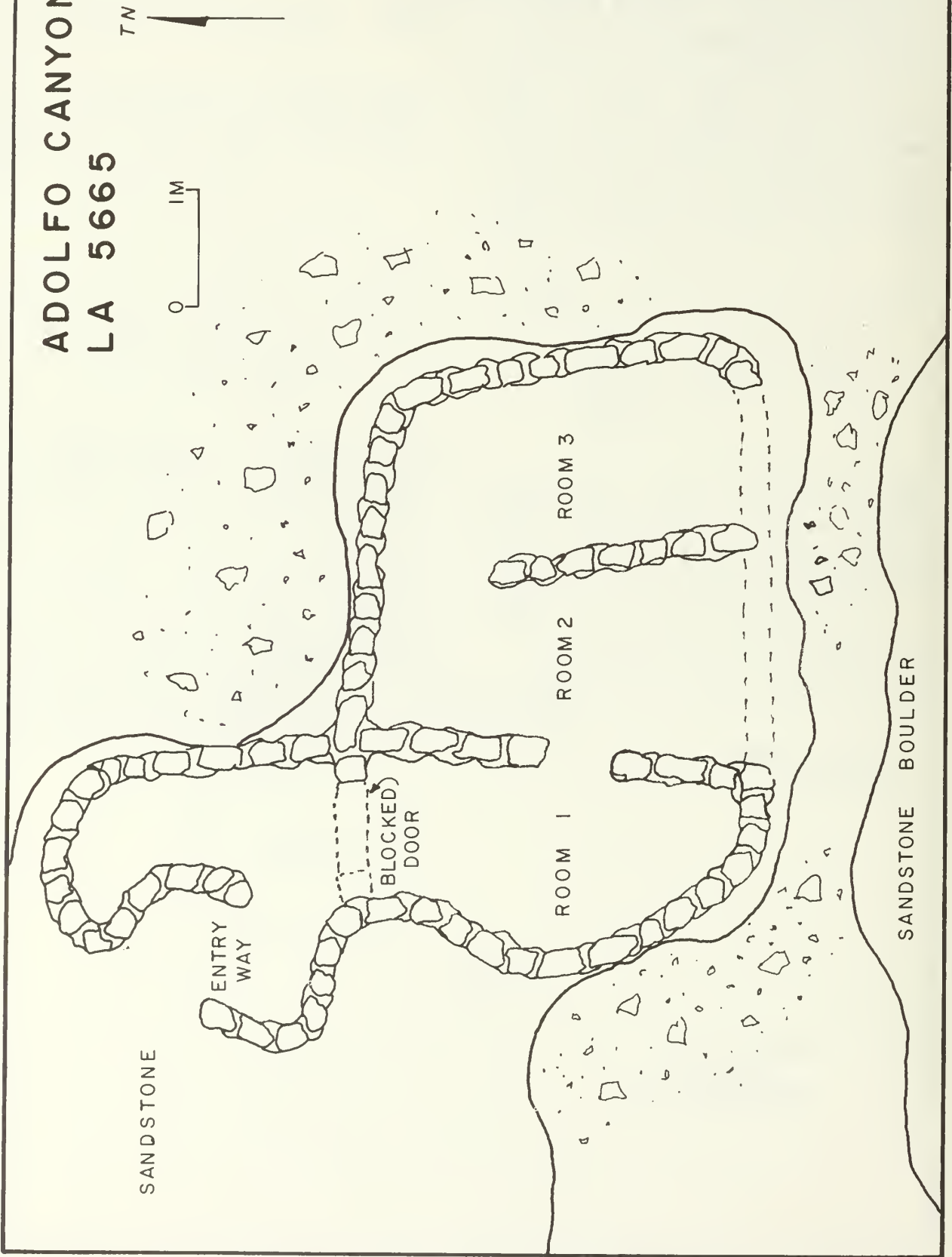
0 5 M 10 M

TN





ADOLFO CANYON  
LA 5665



**Site No:** LA 6287

**Site Name (for registration):** Ridge Top House

**Other Designations:** LA 6287 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 23/Rincon 27-7-28 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1961); Site IV (Haskell 1984)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – San Juan Archaeological Society 1961; surface collection – Haskell 1974; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is at the eastern end of a low ridge overlooking the south side of a major canyon. A rock outcrop forms the footing for part of the pueblito. The site is within the piñon-juniper zone with sage flats extending north toward the canyon.

**Description:** The site contains a possible hogan with a masonry entry, a boulder-top room unit, other masonry rooms built against the sides of the outcrop, and other room units built against the outer wall which encloses the complex. A substantial midden, perhaps 30cm deep, lies north of the outer wall. A pile of burned rocks is about 60m west-southwest and the wooden remains of a sweatlodge were lo-

cated about 120m east of the pueblito. At least twelve ground-floor rooms (two of them on the top of the outcrop) are present. None currently show evidence of a second story. One room at the base of the outcrop may have provided access to the boulder-top unit by means of an interior ladder. Wall fall from the boulder-top unit has obscured part of this room. An outer defensive wall encloses the rooms and creates two plaza areas separated by the central pueblito on the outcrop. The defensive wall uses the large talus boulders occurring mainly on the west as part of the enclosure. A possible entry exists on the south side near a two-room unit. Two sections of fallen masonry (1.5m long, 1m apart) lie southeast of the pueblito and may mark the masonry entry to a hogan. Both Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray ceramics occur in the midden.

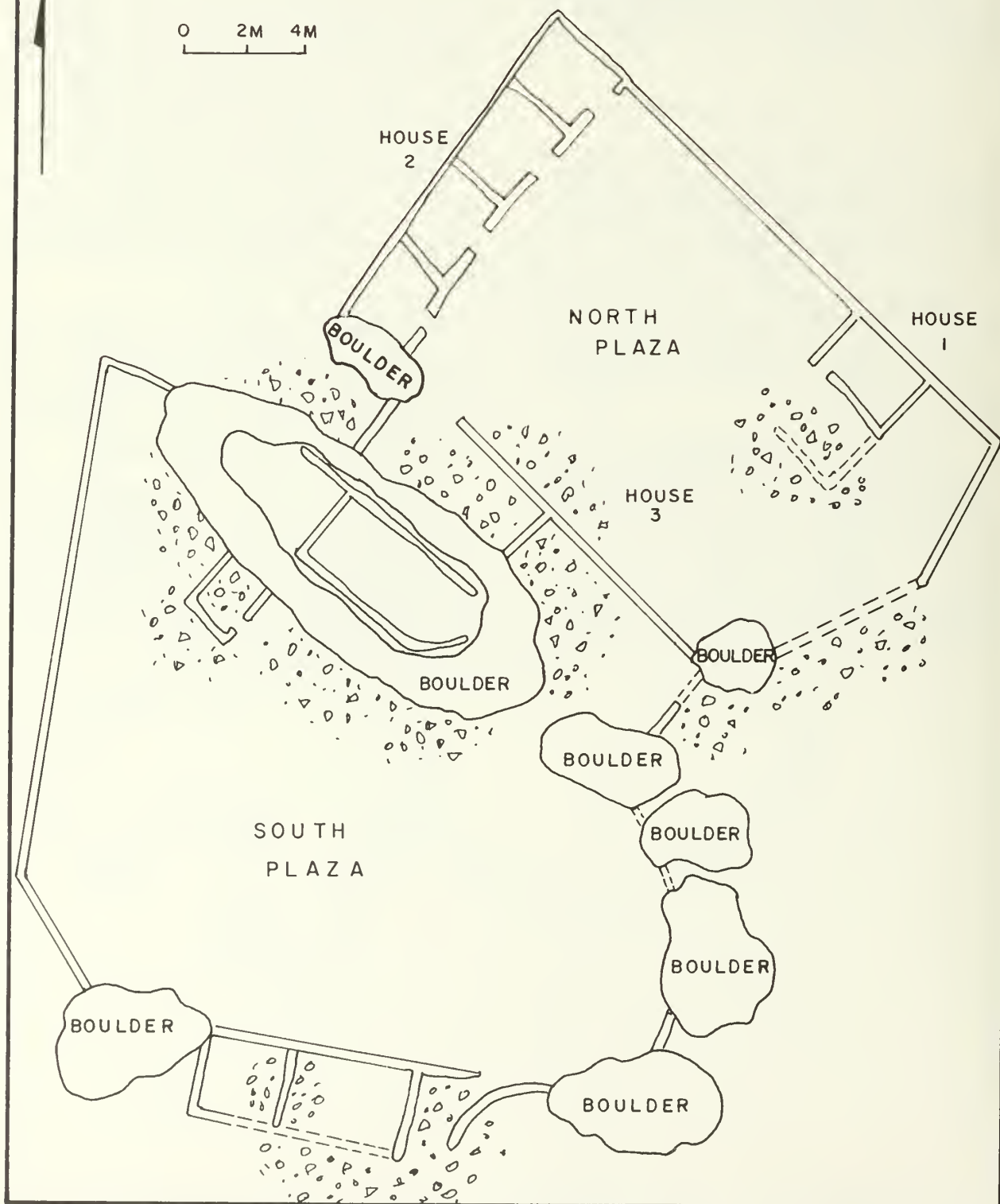
**Condition:** Portions of the rooms have been vandalized. Potting has impacted about 20% of the structures and trash deposits. Little but foundations remain of the boulder-top unit but walls ranging from 1.0 to 1.6m high are present in some of the other units. Wood lintels and roof beams are preserved in the fill.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential to contribute to studies of social relations, economics, trade, defensive strategies, and social organization and demography. The midden deposits, room floors, and plazas are particularly likely to contain data relating to these topics.

# RIDGE TOP HOUSE LA 6287

T N

0 2M 4M



**Site No.:** LA 9073

**Site Name (for registration):** Foothold  
Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 9073 (assigned as a result of D. Snow's 1969 survey); LA 10731 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1972); E-CL-UL-S (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Collection – David Snow, Museum of New Mexico 1969 (collection at Museum of New Mexico?); collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957; tree-ring collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The pueblito rests on an isolated sandstone monolith on the north side of a rincon on the east side of a major canyon. The valley floor is covered with a mixed scrub of sage, wolfberry, grasses, and young piñon. LA 10732 is directly above this site on the top of a mesa and is visible from the site below. The soil appears to be an accumulation of alluvium.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito built on a sandstone monolith, a masonry room unit at the base of the boulder, a scatter of trash, and a few other features. Access to the ovoid room on the boulder is via a set of footholds carved in the face of the rock below the north-facing door. Twelve roof beams and the remnants of a hooded fireplace remain in the pueblito. Other roof beams protrude from the fill of the two or three rectangular rooms at the base. Earlier surveys recorded remains of two hogans at the site but they are no longer visible. A section of collapsed masonry wall and a light trash scatter lie west of the boulder. Dineta Utility and Gobernador Polychrome occurred in the largest numbers with small amount of other types recorded (Zia, Santa Ana, Tewa, Zuni, Hopi, and Jemez Black-on-white). A ham-

merstone, a chopper, and a scraper were also recorded. A notched log ladder noted in 1957 is no longer present.

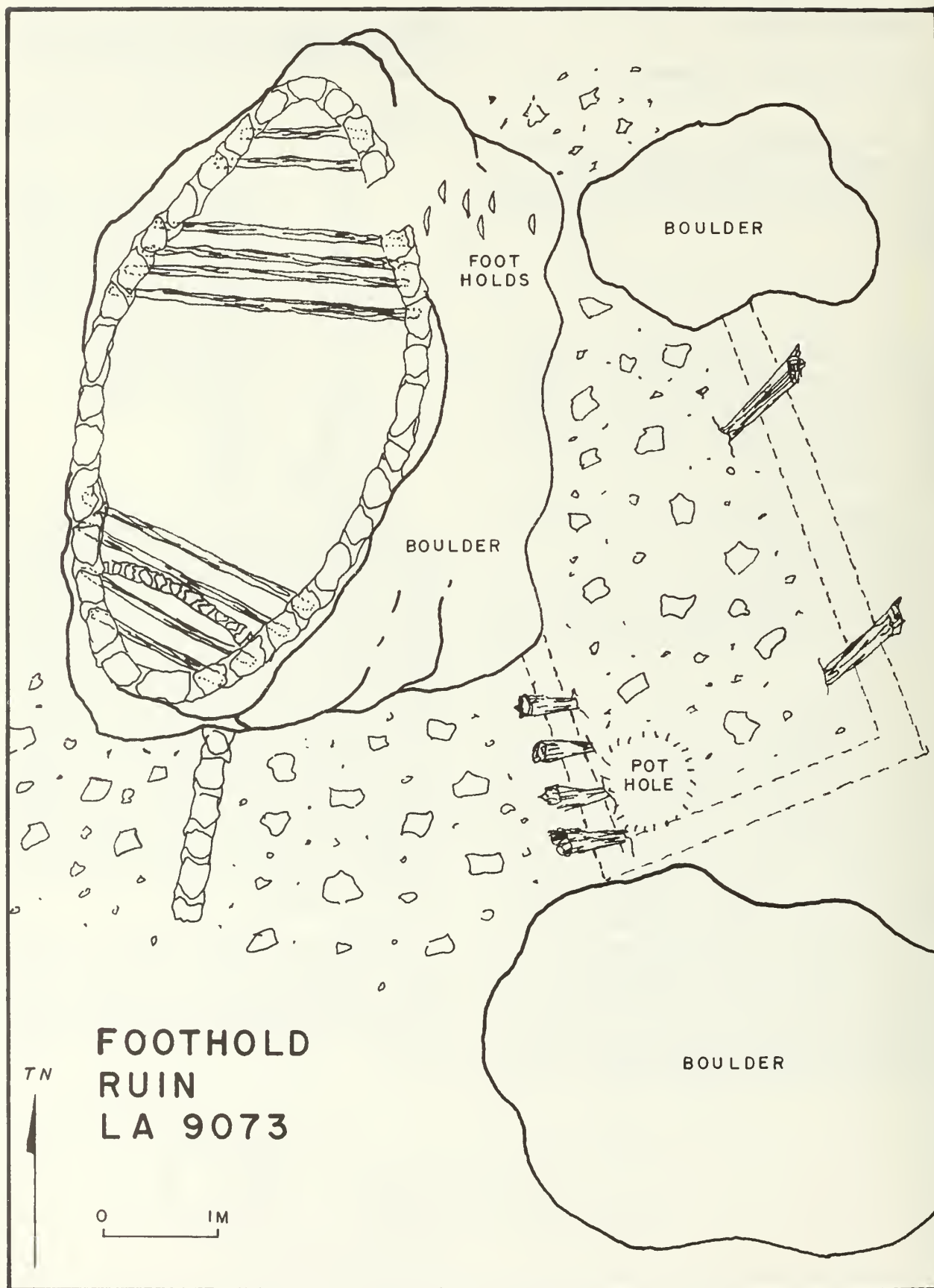
**Dating:** The Navajo Land Claim obtained the following dates:

1720	(rubble – east side of crag)
1734	(rubble – east side of crag)
1734+	(rubble – east side of crag)
1736	(rubble – east side of crag)
1737+	(rubble – east side of crag)
1738	(rubble – east side of crag)
1740	(rubble – east side of crag)
1737	(Boulder top pueblito)
1739	(Boulder top pueblito)
1728+	(West side of crag)
1737+	(West side of crag)
1677	(hogan)
1691	(hogan)
1702	(hogan)
1710+	(hogan)

**Condition:** The remaining roof beams in the boulder-top unit are heavily weathered. Those in the unit at the base appear to be in better condition. The walls of the upper unit stand about 2m high for the first story. In the northeast corner of the rooms a section of the second-story wall rises another meter. One pothole was dug in the lower masonry unit sometime after 1957, and sometime in the last few years a few vandal's holes were dug near the isolated fallen wall west of the pueblito. The cultural deposits at this site are apparently covered by alluvial or colluvial fill as indicated by the degree of burial of the isolated wall and the hogans reported in 1957. Apart from this accumulation of alluvium, the site is environmentally stable. The structure on the monolith would benefit from stabilization.

**Significance:** The site appears to contain buried deposits and may also have more datable timbers in the lower masonry rooms. The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential to contribute to historic archeology studies.





**Site No:** LA 10732

**Site Name (for registration):** Overlook Site

**Other Designations:** LA 10732 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey 1972; E-CL-UL-T (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957 (collections at Museum of New Mexico); tree-ring collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a westward mesa projection on the north side of a small west-facing rincon. The site overlooks LA 9073 on a monolith in the rincon below. The best view from the site is south up canyon. The view down canyon is obstructed by the contours of the mesa top.

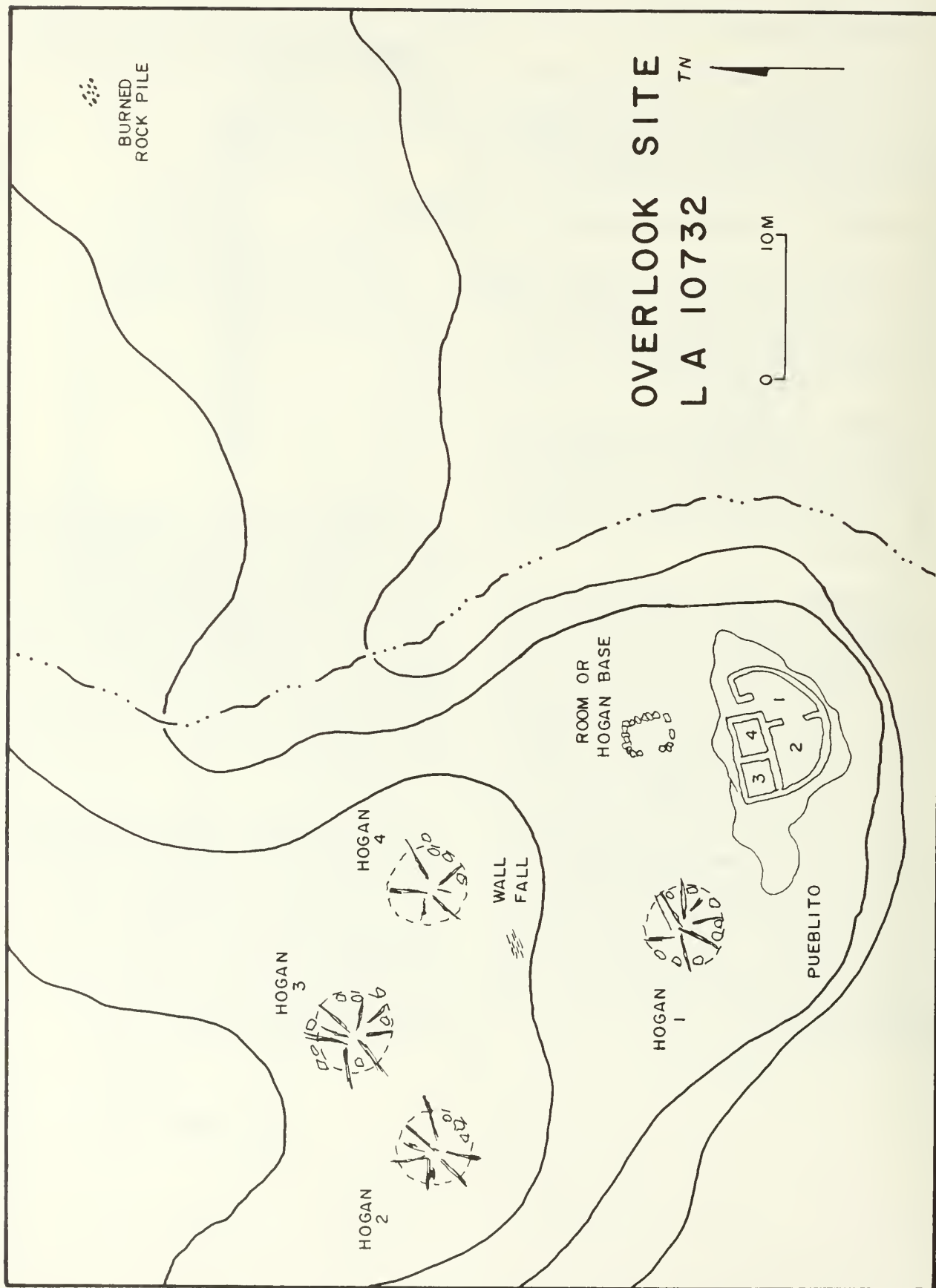
**Description:** The site consists of a semicircular pueblito, four forked-stick hogans, one possible stone-based hogan, a possible windbreak, a pile of burned sandstone, and extensive trash. The pueblito occupies a rock outcrop on the edge of a cliff. The two outer rooms facing the cliff are marked only by foundations and low walls. The two interior rooms (the original construction unit) were originally two story. In both rooms, original roofing timbers remain. The forked-stick hogans have collapsed in a typically circular wheel-spoke pattern. Trash deposits surround the base of the outcrop south and east of the pueblito. Additional trash deposits occur around the hogans and the burned rock pile. The trash deposits appear to average about 20cm in thickness. Dineta Gray and Gobernador Polychrome sherds dominate the assemblage but pottery from Zia, the Tewa pueblos, Zuni, Acoma, and Hopi have been recorded on the site.

**Dating:** The Navajo Land Claim obtained the following tree-ring dates:

Hogans:	1682
	1723
	1726
	1727
Windbreak:	1742+G
Pueblito:	1715+
	1715+
	1725
	1725
	1725G
	1726
	1727
	1727G
	1727G
	1727G
	1728
	1732

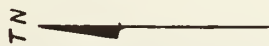
**Condition:** As noted above, two of the rooms have only low walls. They are filled with about 20 to 30cm of rubble. The other two rooms stand about 2m high and contain 1 to 1.3m of fill. The remnant of the second story rises another 30cm to 1m. Some potholes have been dug in the southwest and southeast corners of the easternmost intact room. The presence of tradeware pottery on the surface of the middens suggests that there has been relatively little visitation of this site. The pueblito would benefit from stabilization to preserve the extent architecture.

**Significance:** LA 10732 is significant for its potential contribution to studies of social/ethnic relations and to studies of historic archeology (especially trade, economics, social organization). The middens should yield artifactual and environmental/subsistence samples pertinent to archeological studies. Intact floor assemblages and additional tree-ring specimens from the hogans and pueblito could provide data on social relations. The site is also significant for its architectural features.

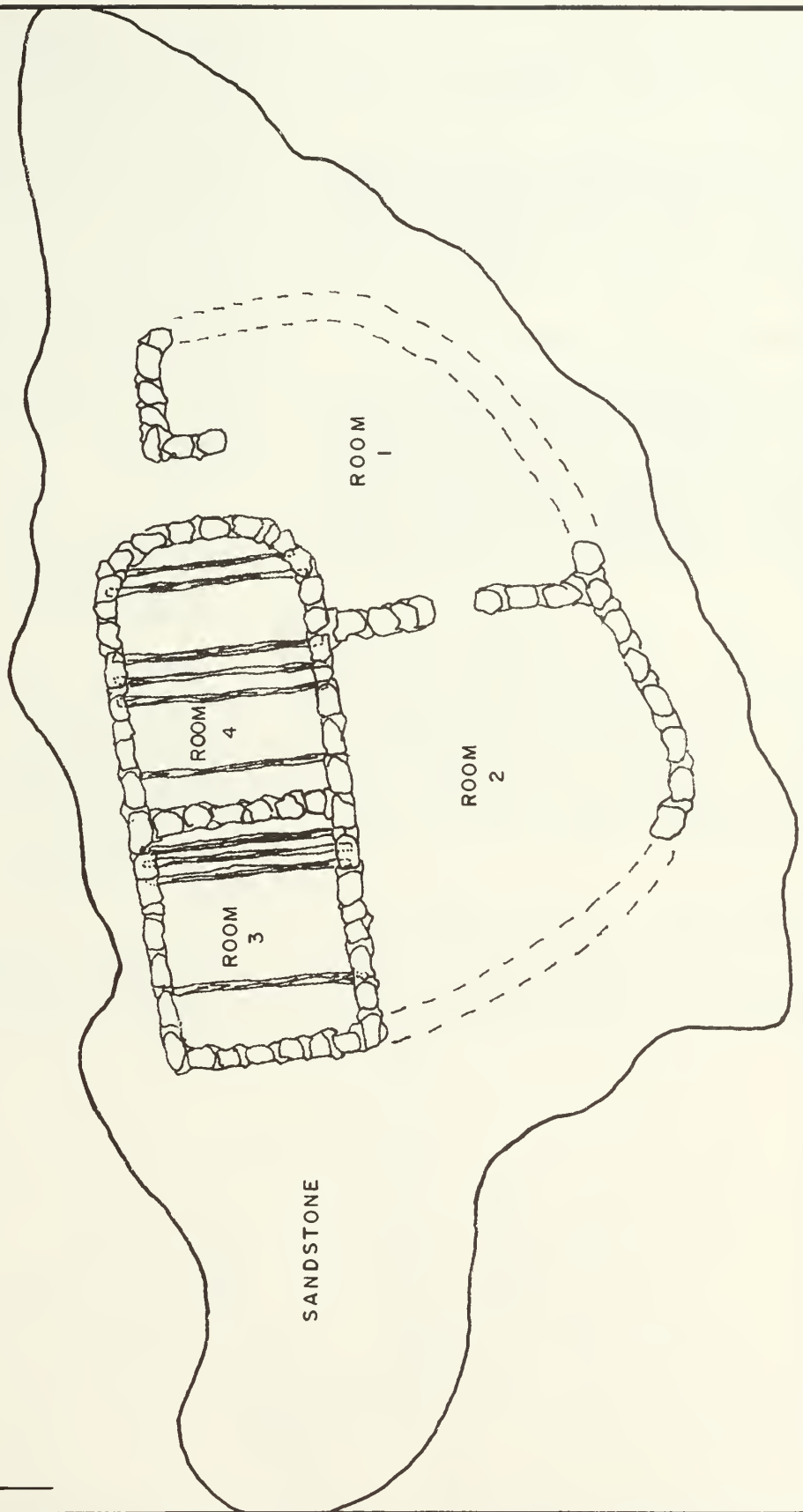


OVERLOOK SITE

LA 10732



0 2M





**Site No.:** LA 10733

**Site Name (for registration):** Pointed Butte Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 10733 (assigned as a result of San Juan Archaeological Society survey); RA 41 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock 1972); E-CL-UL-R (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collections – San Juan Archaeological Society (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-30-27); surface collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957 (collections at Navajo Tribal Museum); tree-ring collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site occupies the top of a steep-sided isolated butte and the area surrounding it. The butte is on the point of a ridge that projects northwest from a mesa top. The butte commands a view of the surrounding mesas and canyons for several miles. It also has a view of Gobernador Knob on the skyline. The vegetation is a mixed cover of sage, piñon, and juniper.

**Description:** The site consists of the remains of about three rooms on the butte, three forked-stick hogans south of it, and substantial areas of trash surrounding the pueblito and hogans. The most intact pueblito walls are segments that extend downward into crevices in

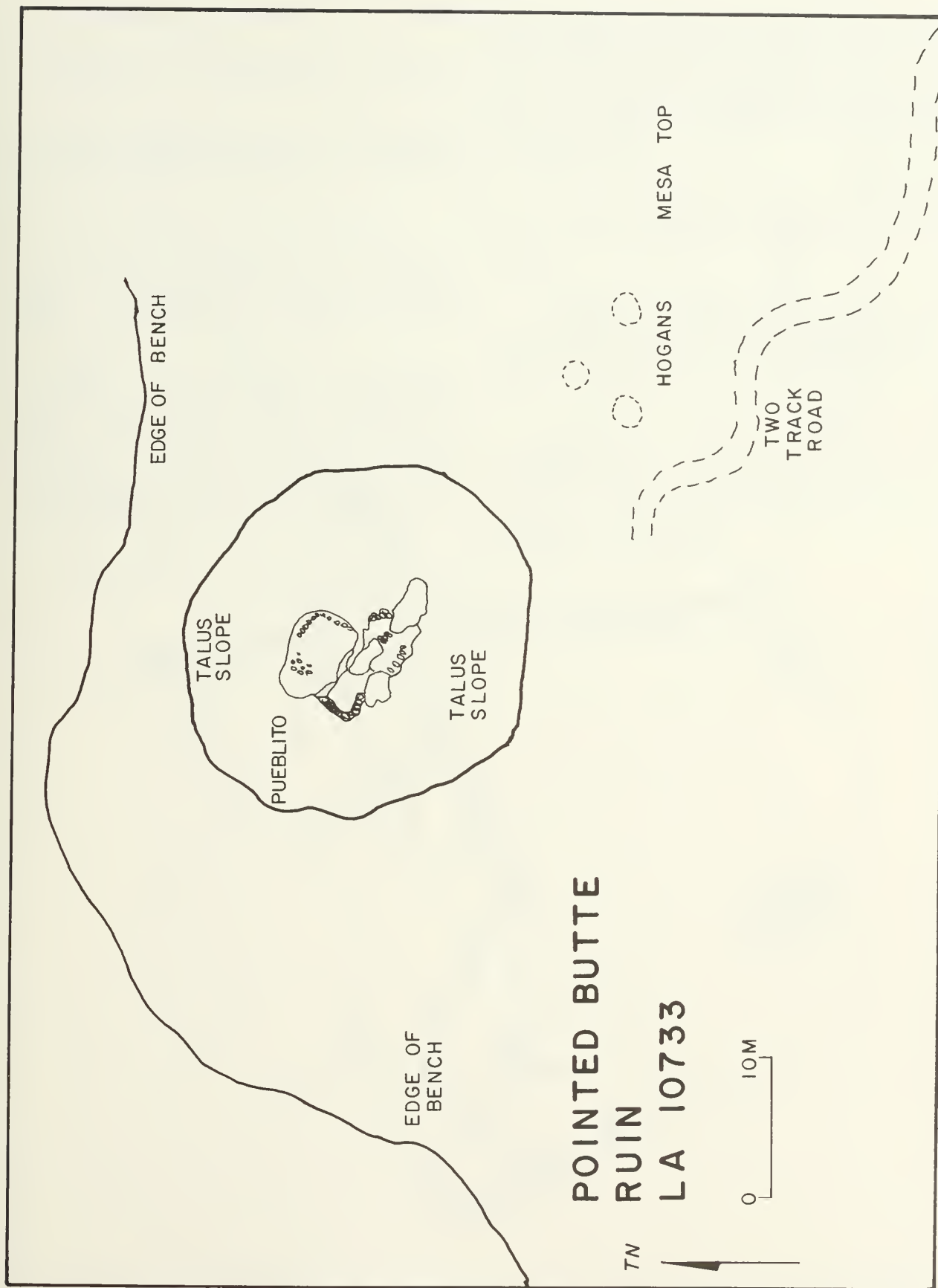
the butte. In other areas the walls stand only 30cm above the bedrock or wall fall. Some primary roof beams occur in the fill of the rooms but many have been thrown over the edge of the butte. Access was apparently by means of a masonry entryway and natural rock passage on the east side of the butte. All three forked-stick hogans have collapsed and lie roughly southeast of the butte. Navajo Land Claim surveyors recorded three other hogans on the northeast side of the crag which are now obscured by wall fall from the pueblito. In addition to the dominant Dinetah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome, the Navajo Land Claim surveyors also noted the presence of Tewa Polychrome and Hopi, Acoma, and Zuni pottery. Two notched log ladders noted in 1957 are no longer present.

**Dating:** The Navajo Land Claim recovered the following dated tree-ring samples:

Hogan: 1638, 1702+, 1720+, 1721, 1748+  
Unprovenienced: 1720, 1721+

**Condition:** The masonry is in poor condition except where it fills the crevices in the crag. The roof beams are weathered to varying degrees. The three forked-stick hogans southeast of the crag have collapsed but are environmentally stable. The trash deposits appear to be about 20 to 30cm deep, although surface artifacts occur widely across the site. Cultural fill within the pueblito may be less than 30cm in the deeper deposits.

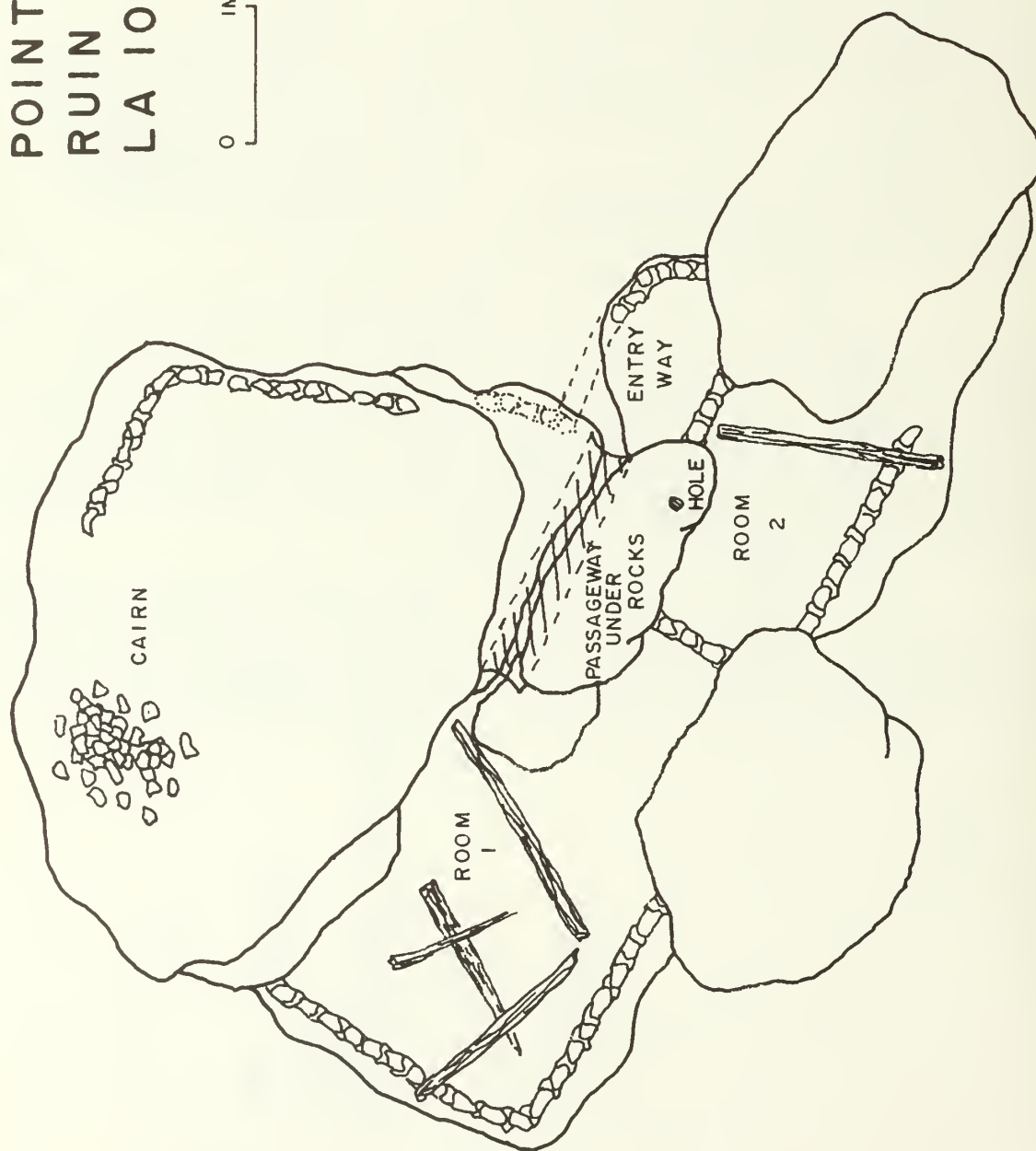
**Significance:** Because of the potential for obtaining *in situ* deposits from the hogans and trash deposits, the site is significant primarily for its importance in archeological studies.



POINTED BUTTE  
RUIN  
LA 10733



0 1M



**Site No.:** LA 11097

**Site Name (for registration):** Christmas Tree Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 11097 (assigned as a result of BLM 1973 survey – J. Enloe et al.); AR-30-01-2001 (BLM 1974)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Stabilization and surface collection – BLM 1974; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site occupies a ledge and rock shelter on the north side of Gobernador Canyon near the San Juan River. Although the site is easily accessible from the mesa top, there is a sheer 200-foot cliff below the site. The site has a view of Gobernador Canyon for a short distance upstream and of the mesa and benches on the south side of the canyon.

**Description:** The site consists of a walled

rock shelter and a burned rock pile on the bench above. The rock shelter is about 8m deep and the walled area is about 10cm long. The walled area is inaccessible except by ladder. The presence of soot on the ceiling of the shelter indicates it was used for at least temporary habitation.

A few utility ware and painted ware sherds were noted by the BLM stabilization crew. A few chert and quartzite flakes were also collected.

**Condition:** The walls range in height from about 50cm to 1.4m. Minimal stabilization was performed by the BLM to prevent deterioration of the upper courses. The burned rock pile is intact.

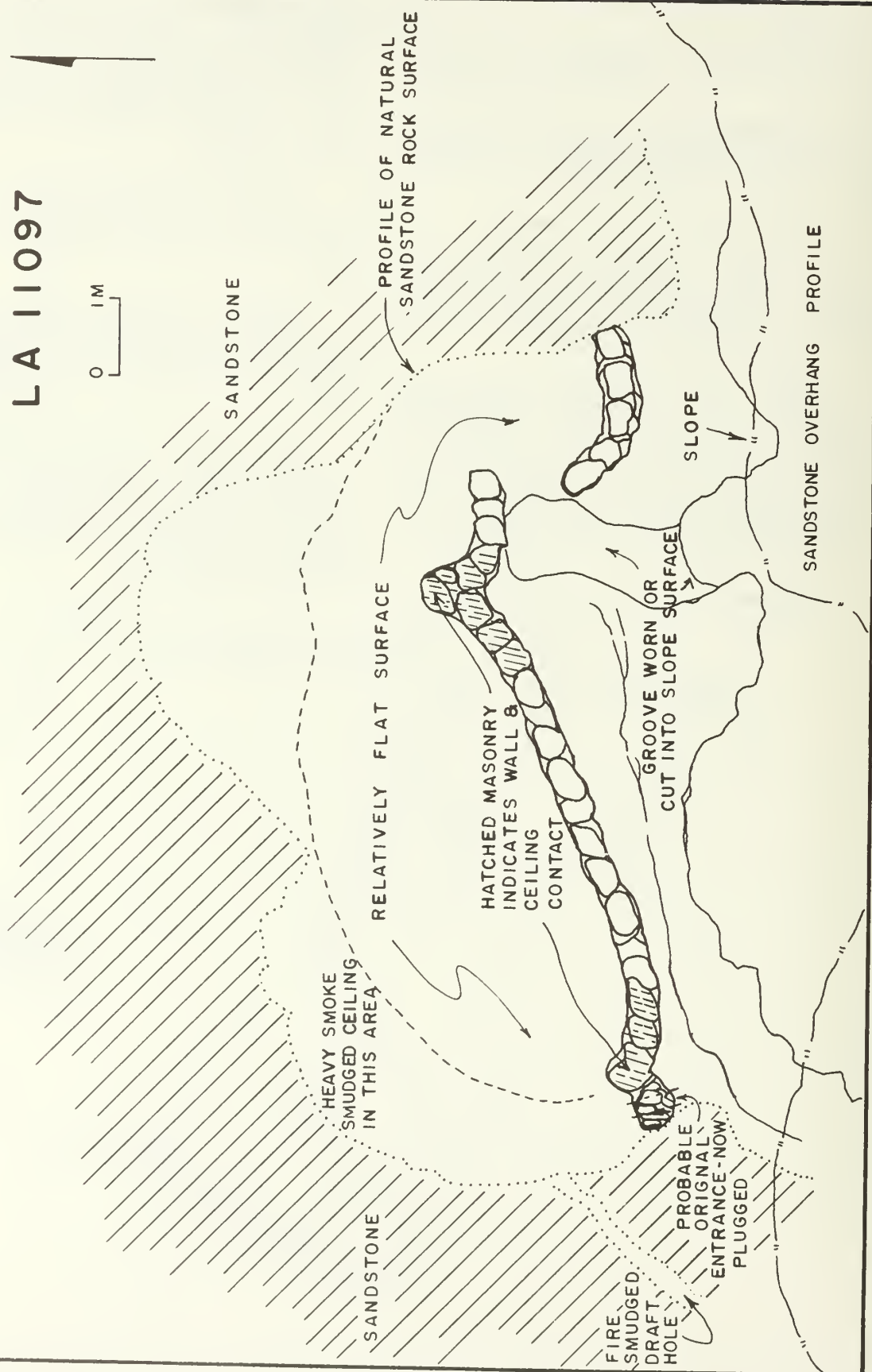
**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for archeological studies of defensive tactics. Datable timbers, which enhance the interpretative qualities of the site, are present. The scarcity of artifacts limits other possible research efforts.



# CHRISTMAS TREE RUIN LA 11097

TN

0 1M



**Site No.** LA 11100

**Site Name (for registration):** Casa Mesa Diablo

**Other Designations:** LA 11100 (assigned as a result of 1973 BLM survey – J. Enloe et al.)

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Setting:** The site is on a bench near the head of one of the branches of Encierro Canyon. The site has a view of the mesas and benches overlooking the head of the canyon. The area is covered with mixed piñon-juniper and sage. The pueblito is built on a sandstone outcrop protruding from an upper bench; trash deposits and activity areas are located on the bench below.

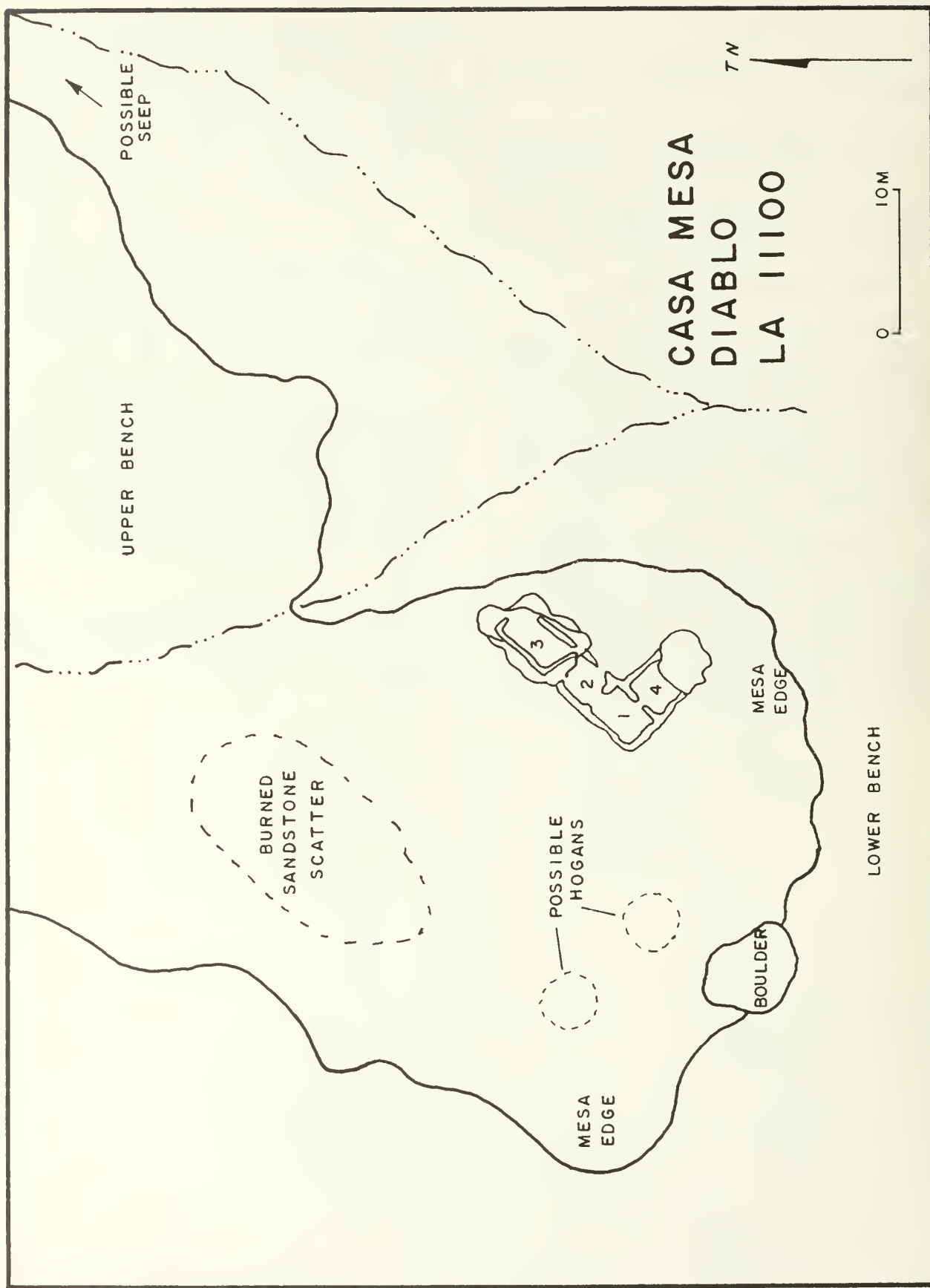
**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, two possible hogans, a mound of oxidized sandstone, and various artifact scatters and middens. The pueblito consists of four rooms built on the edge of the bench. One room is on an outcrop that is nearly 2m higher than the rest of the bench. The roof of a lower room was probably the means of access.

Stones in the walls of the upper room show signs of burning and one of the wall junctions in the lower rooms suggests that the walls may have been rebuilt. Both hogans are represented by shallow depressions, one of them associated with burned scraps of wood. The mound of sandstone lying north of the hogans may be discarded sweatlodge rocks or it may be some other feature.

A midden area lies on the bench north of the pueblito and on the slopes and lower bench east of the structure. Other artifact areas are present on the bench below the pueblito. Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray are the predominant ceramics.

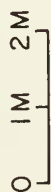
**Condition:** The site is obscured by a heavy growth of sage. The walls are generally less than 1m high although one section stands about 2m. The walls themselves are in only fair condition and will probably deteriorate further in the next few years. The internal cultural fill ranges from 10cm to 60cm. Deposits in the trash areas and activity areas probably range from 10 to 25cm.

**Significance:** The site is primarily significant for archeological studies of trade, subsistence, social organization, and defensive strategies.



## LA 11100

TN





**Site No.:** LA 11251

**Site Name (for registration):** Prieta Mesa Site

**Other Designations:** LA 11251 (assigned as a result of 1973 BLM survey – J. Enloe et al.); AR-30-01-377 and 232 (Bureau of Land Management – James Enloe and William C. Allan 1973)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the point of a mesa bench which drops sharply about 100 feet to the broad bench below. The site has an extensive view of sage-covered benches on the east side of Largo Canyon. The site itself and benches above it are covered with piñon, juniper, sage, Mormon tea, and grasses.

**Description:** The site consists of a masonry-walled crag with a probable entryway. Three, possibly four, forked-stick or cribbed log hogans are enclosed by the wall. The entry appears to consist of a passage under a large horizontal timber into a narrow masonry room or corridor

at the east end of the crag. Currently, access is easiest through a rubble-filled crevice on the northeast edge of the massif. The defensive wall differs from others in having a number of large upright timbers set among the wall stones. A fourth hogan or sweatlodge lies on a small bench just northwest of the crag. Dinetah Gray is present within the enclosure. Another artifact scatter is located east of the crag on the saddle connecting it to the main part of the mesa.

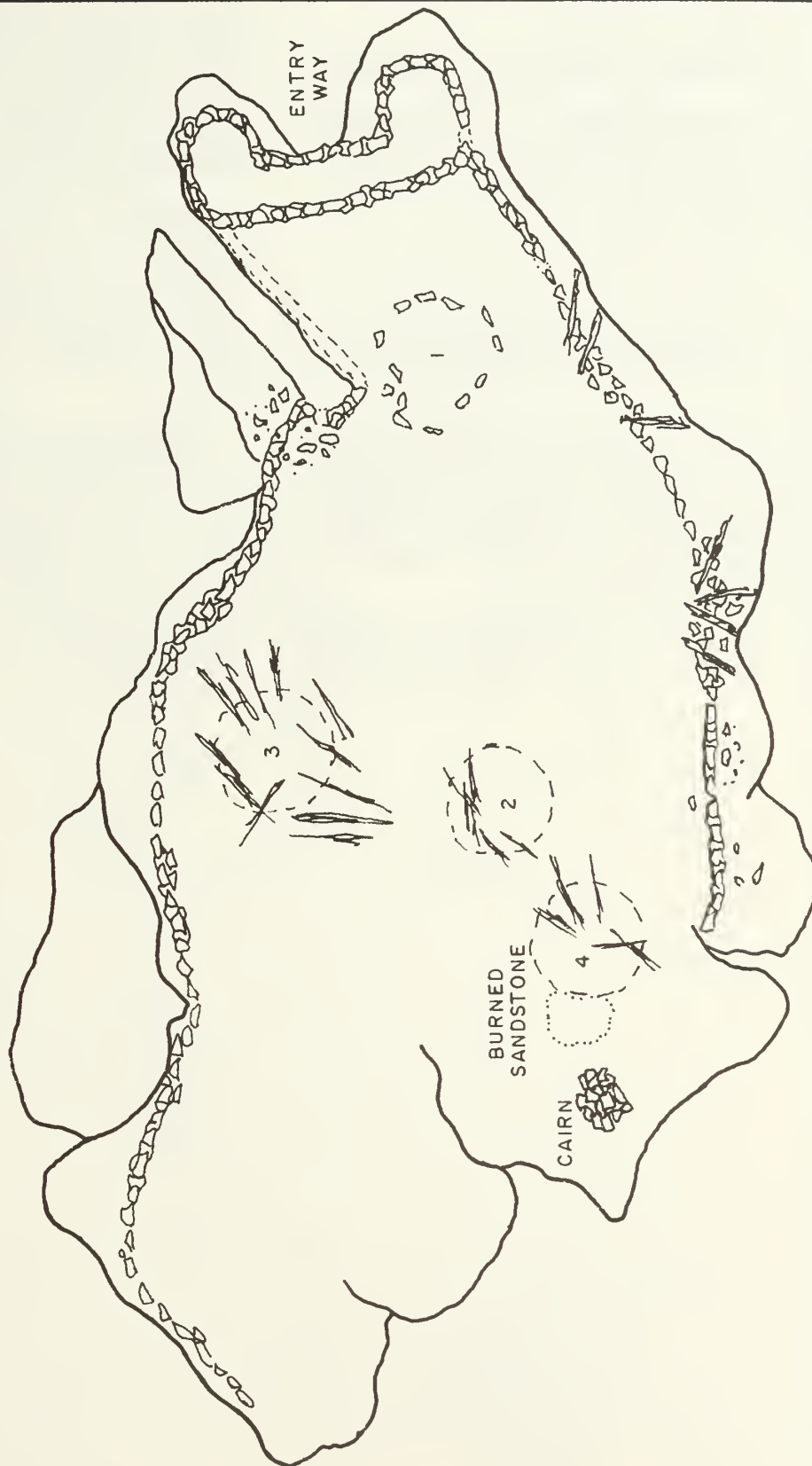
**Condition:** The hogans have collapsed in place. The defensive wall is disarticulated in most places. Extant portions stand 60 to 80cm high. The fill in the interior of the entry room or corridor is about 20cm. Elsewhere on the top of the crag the fill is a maximum of 10cm deep. A modern rock cairn has been erected on the western tip of the crag.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its defensive architecture and for its hogan architecture. The forked-stick form is typical of the Gobernador Period; the cribbed log form is uncommon for this period. The site's defensive features and its position on the landscape are indicators of its potential to contribute to studies of warfare. The hogans and entry room may also contain both intact floor features and deposits that may yield data for studies of economics and social organization.

PRIETA MESA SITE  
LA 11251



0 2M 4M



**Site No.:** LA 13218

**Site Name (for registration):** Crevice Ruin

**Other Designations:** LA 13218 (assigned as a result of B. Grove survey 1975); Francais Tower IV (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941); SJC-026 (San Juan College – Bruce Grove 1975)

**Owner:** Private (Gomez and Gomez, Inc.)

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the northern tip of a mesa overlooking a major canyon. The site has a view of the canyon downstream for about 2 miles and of another pueblito to the northwest across the mouth of a side canyon. The site is within the piñon-juniper woodland, but sage has colonized the pueblito itself.

**Description:** The site consists of a three-room pueblito, three forked-stick hogans, and a

midden area. The pueblito comprises two construction episodes. One of the hogans has a mound of collapsed masonry on its southern margin which may be a masonry-lined entry. Ceramics in the trash midden include Dinetah Gray, Gobernador Polychrome, Jemez Black-on-white, and other Rio Grande tradewares.

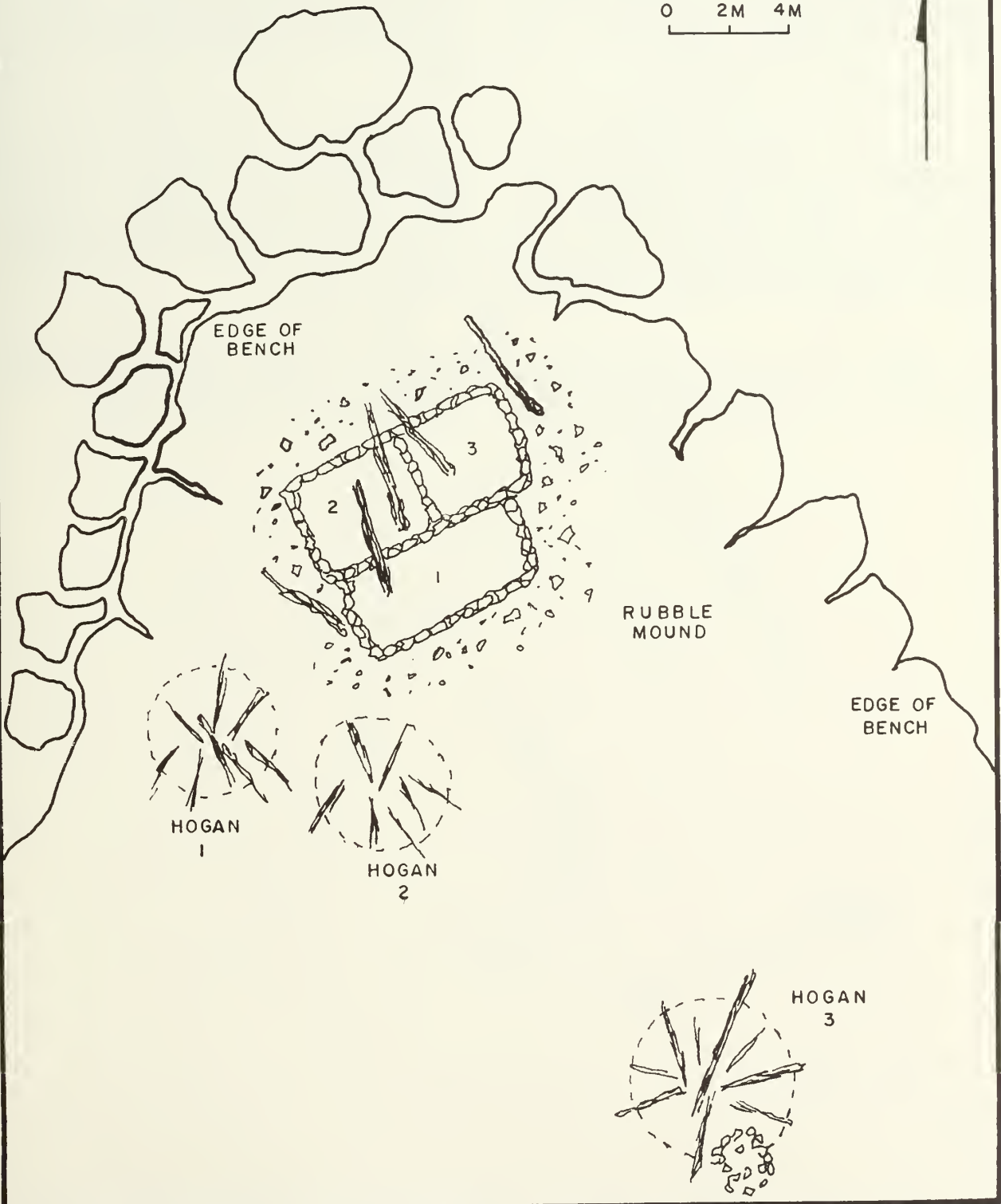
**Condition:** The pueblito walls stand approximately 1 to 1.2m high. A few weathered roof beams span the walls. The cultural fill is about 50cm or more deep in the pueblito, about 20cm deep in the hogans, and about 10cm deep in the midden. The site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site is apparently part of a complex of Gobernador Period sites that involves Frances Canyon Ruin. The primary significance of the site lies in its potential to contribute to archeological studies. The hogans and masonry structures are expected to produce *in situ* features, artifact samples, and pollen and flotation samples. The midden areas, despite their shallowness, should contribute artifact and environmental samples.

# CREVICE RUIN LA 13218

TN

0 2M 4M





**Site No.:** LA 20219

**Site Name (for registration):** Crow Canyon Site

**Other Designations:** LA 20219 (assigned as a result of 1974 BLM stabilization); LA 5667/RA 18 (San Juan Archaeological Society 1959); AR-30-01-2002 (BLM 1974); Crow Canyon #3 (Harry Hadlock – notes)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Stabilization – BLM 1974; surface collection – BLM 1974 (collections at BLM Albuquerque District Office); San Juan Archaeological Society 1959 (collections at San Juan County Museum Association – #81-12-24); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site rests on and around a large detached boulder on the first bench on the south side of Crow Canyon. It has a view both

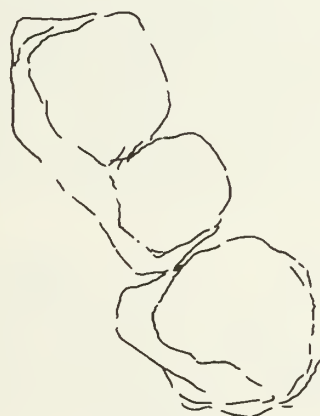
up and down the canyon and of the north side of Crow Canyon.

**Description:** The site contains a pueblito of four rooms, one of which is situated on top of a detached boulder. One pole from a corner shelf remains *in situ* in the boulder-top room. A midden area surrounds the structure. Prior collections included Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray ceramics, a projectile point, and flakes.

**Condition:** The walls of the boulder top room stand at least 1m high on the east but have collapsed on the west side. The three rooms on the ground level have fragmentary walls. Roof beams have been strewn about the base of the boulder. The site has been stabilized and an interpretative sign placed at the access point to the ruin.

**Significance:** Subsurface deposits appear to exist in the surface rooms and trash areas. Therefore, the site has the potential to contribute to historical archeological studies.

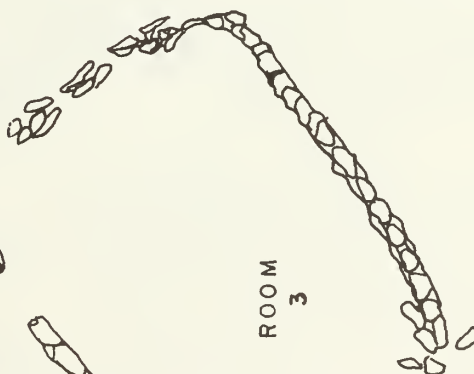
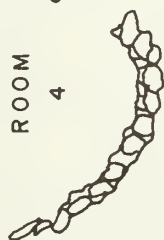
CROW CANYON  
SITE  
LA 20219



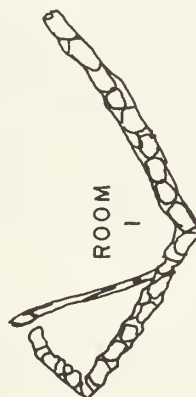
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ROOM  
4



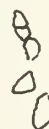
ROOM  
3



ROOM  
1



ROOM  
2



**Site No.:** LA 36608

**Site Name (for registration):** Garcia Canyon Pueblito

**Other Designations:** LA 36608 (assigned as a result of New Mexico Highway Department Survey 1982); SM-19 (Donald Clifton/Steve Koczan – New Mexico Highway Department 1982); N-USJ-GLJ-RR (Navajo Land Claim – Richard Van Valkenburgh and Bernadine Whitegoat 1957); Francais Canyon Tower I (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941)

**Owner:** Private

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – Navajo Land Claim 1957 (collection at Navajo Tribal Museum); National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a sandstone bench overlooking broad sage flats in a section of Frances Canyon. The pueblito occupies a sandstone block that split off from the main bench. It overlooks a small drainage flowing north into Frances Canyon. The vegetation on the bench is piñon-juniper woodland.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, a rock art panel, a burned rock pile, and a refuse area. The pueblito contains about nine one-story rooms, three of which have at least partial roofs. These rooms are connected by doorways. The remaining rooms are less well defined, but a number of abutted walls indicate that several construction episodes occurred. Loopholes look out to the north and east from the northern rooms. The trash is concentrated below the sandstone block but artifacts are also scattered over the bench to the east and south. The primary components of the midden are sherds of Dinétah Gray and Gober-

nador Polychrome. One piece of Mexican Majolica ware was collected from the site. Green quartzite and white chert lithics have also been reported.

The rock pile is located about 60m south of the pueblito. No signs of the sweatlodge remain.

The rock art occurs on the rock face below the pueblito. It consists of various pecked and red painted geometric designs that are probably associated with the site. Historic (recent) names, initials, and dates (1898(?), 1937, and 1959) are present on these panels. Below the panels, an overhang of the rock face may shelter a storage area.

**Dating:** Although the Navajo Land Claim collected two tree-ring samples, neither specimen was datable.

**Condition:** The three northern rooms are in excellent condition and still retain some of their roofs. The other rooms are composed of wall segments up to 1m high. The fill in the rooms is about 40cm deep. Three rooms have been vandalized, two since 1982. The fill in the refuse area is at least 20cm deep. The scattered trash on the top of the bench appears to have little potential for depth.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture, which is relatively well preserved. The pueblito contains a number of typical elements – loopholes, corner diagonal beams, narrowed doorways, axe-cut beams, and intact mortar. The site also is significant for its potential to contribute to archeological studies. Intact deposits apparently exist within the structure and in the trash at the base of the sandstone block. Potentially datable tree-ring samples are present. This data may be useful in studying economics, social relations, social organization, demography, and defensive tactics.

# GARCIA CANYON

PUEBLITO

LA 36608

TN

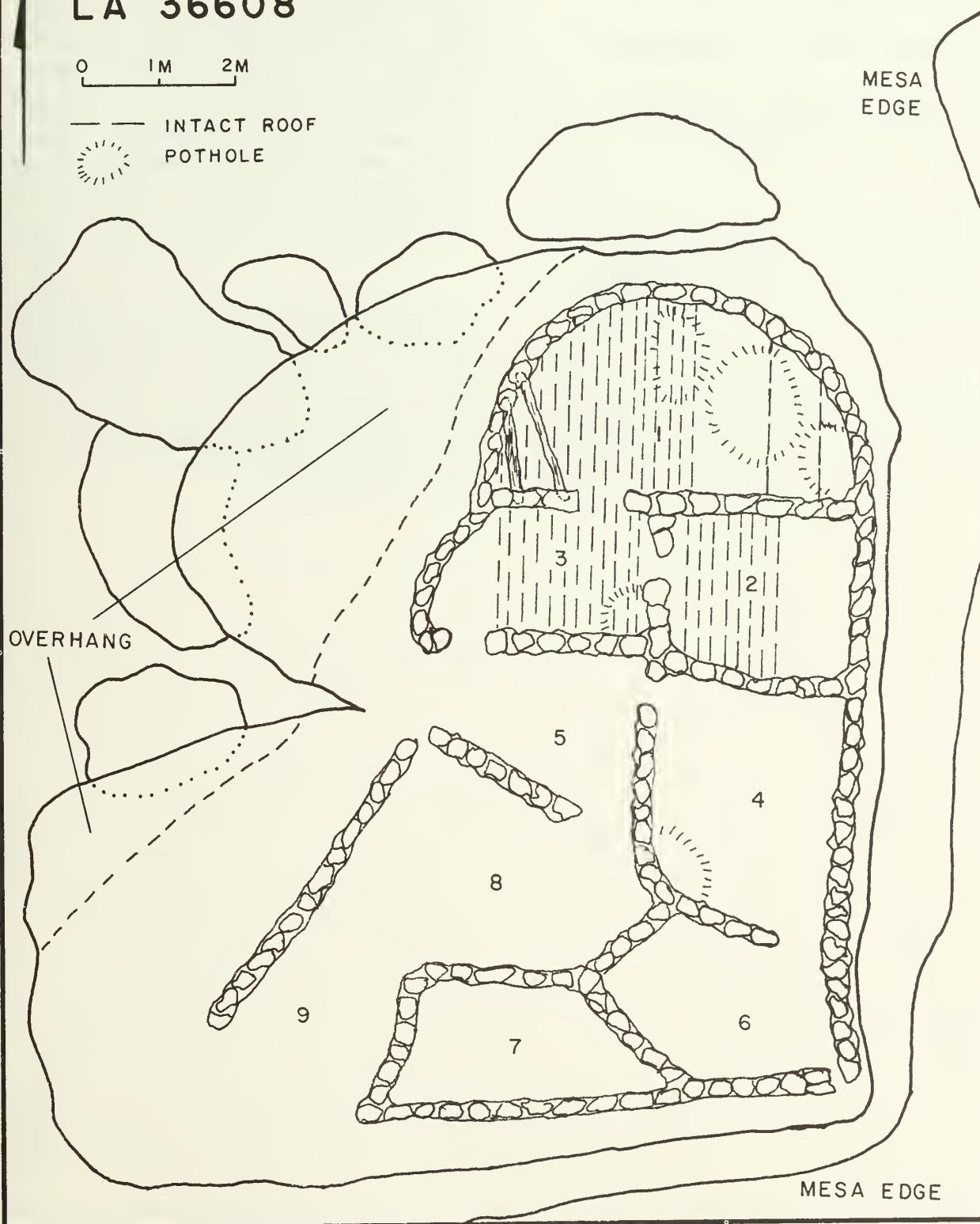
0 1M 2M

— INTACT ROOF  
⊙ POTHOLE

MESA  
EDGE

OVERHANG

MESA EDGE





**Site No.:** LA 55824

**Site Name (for registration):** Adams Canyon Site

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Collection (projectile point) and National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the edge of the cliff forming the side of Adams Canyon. The site commands a view down Adams Canyon for a considerable distance. The piñon-juniper woodland around the site has been chained to within a few meters of the site.

**Description:** The site consists of a three-room pueblito, a forked-stick hogan, a stone-based hogan, a burned rock pile, and a trash deposit. Anasazi rock art panels (noncontributing) are located on the cliff wall below the site. The midden area contains Gobernador

Polychrome and Dinetah Gray. One small side-notched triangular point was found near the pueblito.

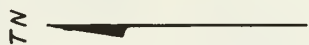
**Condition:** One of the rooms has been potted leaving only 5 to 10cm of fill within the room. Another room has been potted (approximately 20% of the floor area). The remaining areas of fill average about 40cm deep. Roof timbers are strewn about the outside of the pueblito. The walls stand about 1.2m high. The forked-stick hogan has collapsed in place and the stone-based hogan lacks evidence of the superstructure. Ten to 25cm of fill remain in the hogans and trash areas. Chaining has obscured deposits and features that may exist west of the pueblito.

**Significance:** The site has the potential to yield tree-ring samples, intact midden deposits, and some intact features and deposits from the structures. It is, thus, significant primarily for its ability to contribute to studies of economics, trade, subsistence, social organization, and demography. It is also significant for its architecture, including the stone-based hogan which is rare in sites of this period.

BURNED  
SANDSTONE



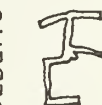
ADAMS CANYON  
SITE  
LA 55824



0 6 M 12 M

MESA TOP

PUEBLITO

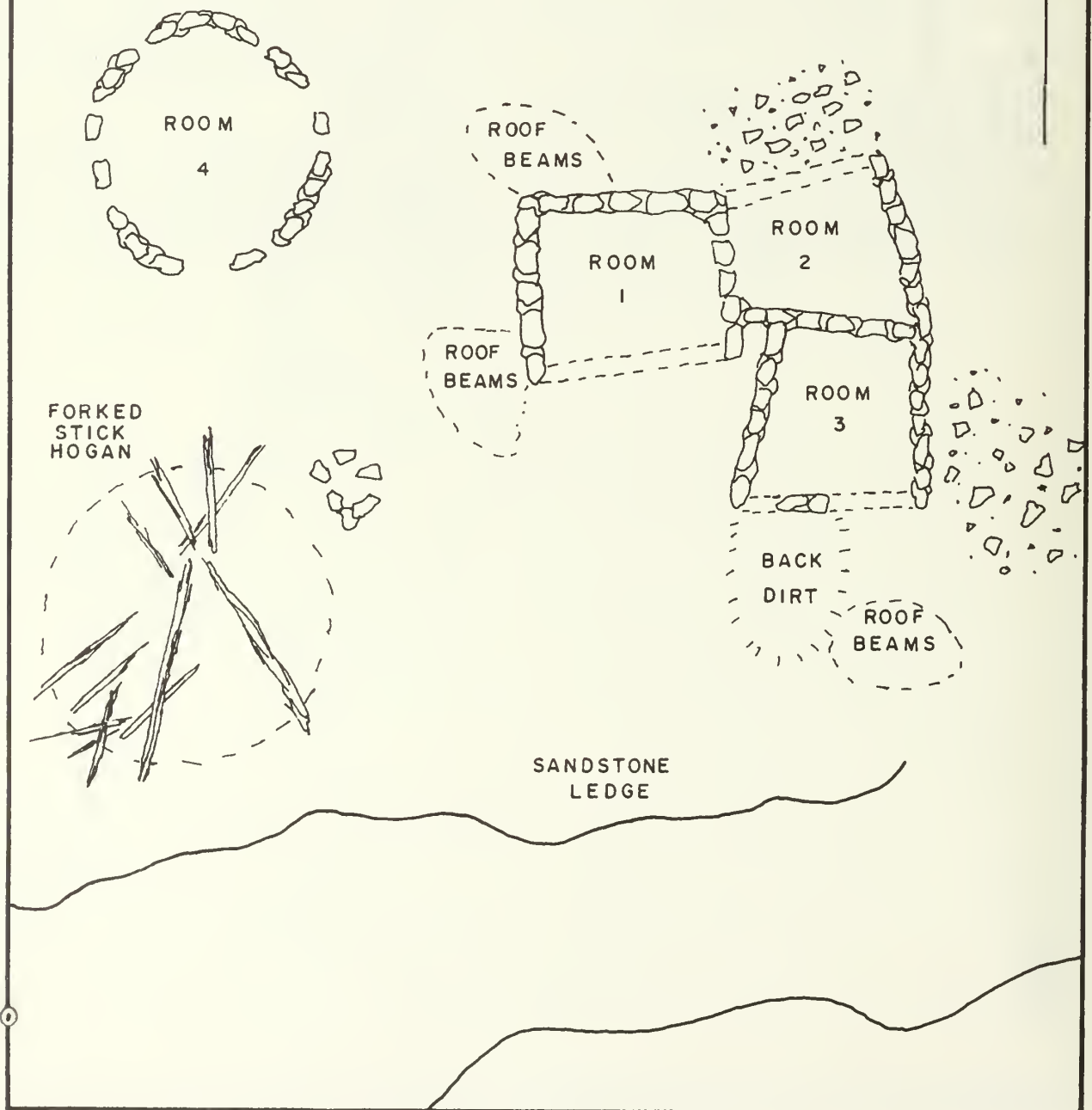


ROCK ART  
PANELS

ADAMS CANYON  
SITE  
LA 55824

0 3M

TN



**Site No.:** LA 55825

**Site Name (for registration):** Boulder Fortress

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a bench of a mesa on the north side of a small tributary canyon. Huge talus boulders are tumbled below the cliff. The pueblito rests on one of them about ten feet out from the edge of the bench. The vegetation is a piñon-juniper woodland with sage flats in the valley below. The site has a view of the tributary drainage and the sage flat.

**Description:** The site contains a pueblito on a detached boulder, three forked-stick hogans, a possible fourth hogan, a burned rock pile, and midden areas. The three hogans have collapsed. The middens are definable along the margins of a low sandy ridge and probably extend under the sand for several meters. The middens contain Gobernador Polychrome and Dinétah Gray.

The pueblito consists of four ground-floor rooms built on a boulder separated from the cliff edge by about 1.5m. The four rooms are built within a single outer wall that conforms to the

shape of the boulder. A single doorway in the northeast corner provides access to the pueblito. The gap between the cliff and the doorway, which are at the same level, could have been bridged with logs. Interior doors connect the rooms. Loopholes look to the east and north of the pueblito. Remnants of the second-story walls rise about 60cm above the first-floor ceiling on the north wall of the pueblito. The masonry consists of sandstone slabs and chinking set in mud mortar in a typical "columnar" style.

**Condition:** Only a small portion of the upper story remains. The first-floor walls range from 40cm to approximately 2.3m high with two nearly complete rooms. These two rooms also contain socketed roof beams and some remnants of the secondary roof members. The fill in the rooms varies from about 30 to 70cm. The hogans have collapsed but the wooden members are still articulated. The trash deposits appear to be at least 15cm deep and clearly extend under the ridge of blow sand north of the hogan.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture, which is typical of the period, for its potential for historic archeological studies, and for studies of social/ethnic relations. The site contains potentially datable *in situ* wood, probable buried deposits (with the potential for recovering environmental, economic, and trade data), and artifacts and structural features that bear on questions of site composition, demography, warfare, and social relations.



# BOULDER FORTRESS

LA 55825

TN

0 5M 10M

MESA  
TOP

EDGE OF  
BENCH

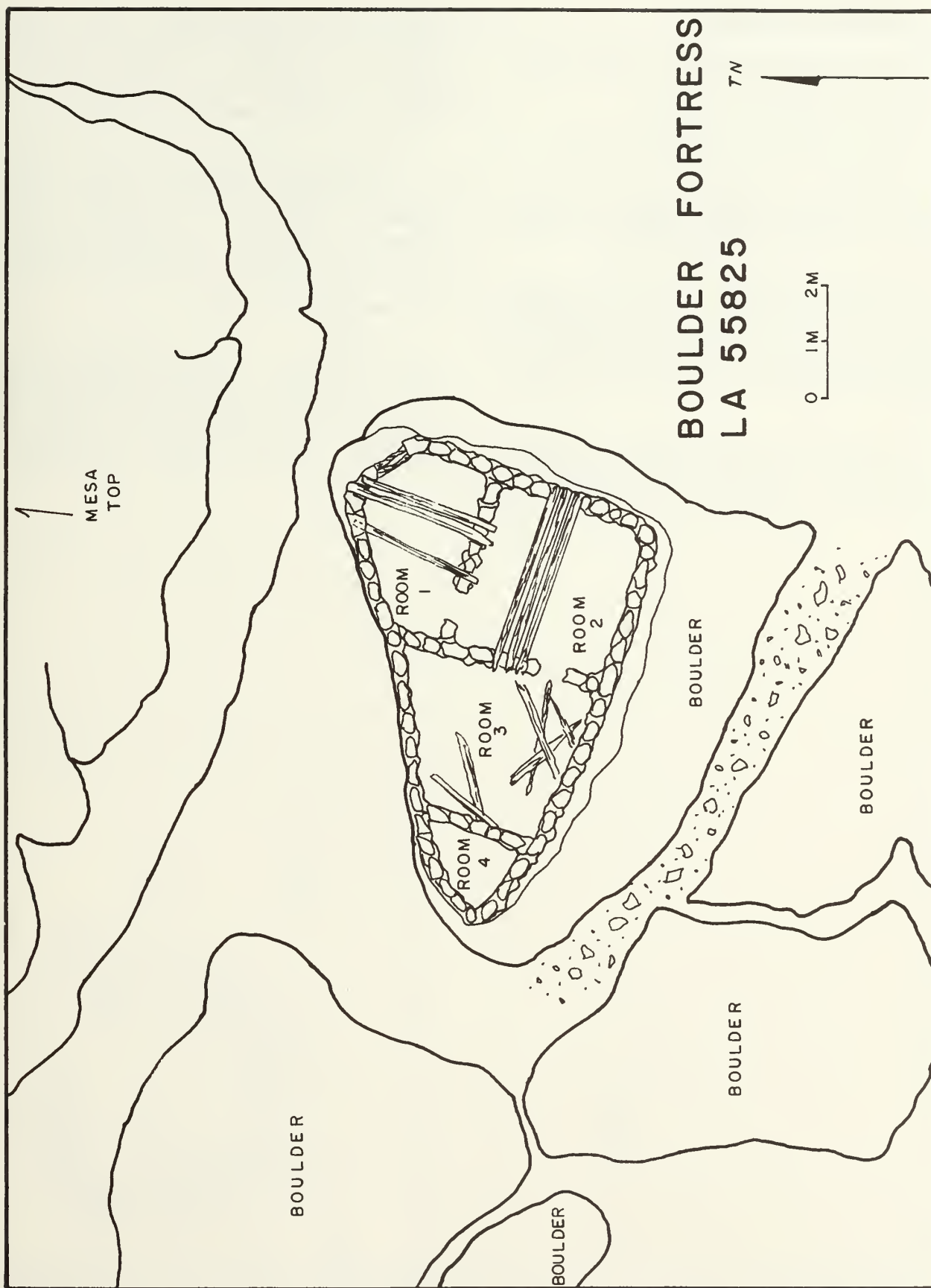
HOGAN  
1

HOGAN  
2

HOGAN  
3

HOGAN  
4

EDGE OF  
BENCH



**Site No.:** LA 55826

**Site Name (for registration):** Cagle's Site

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation — M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

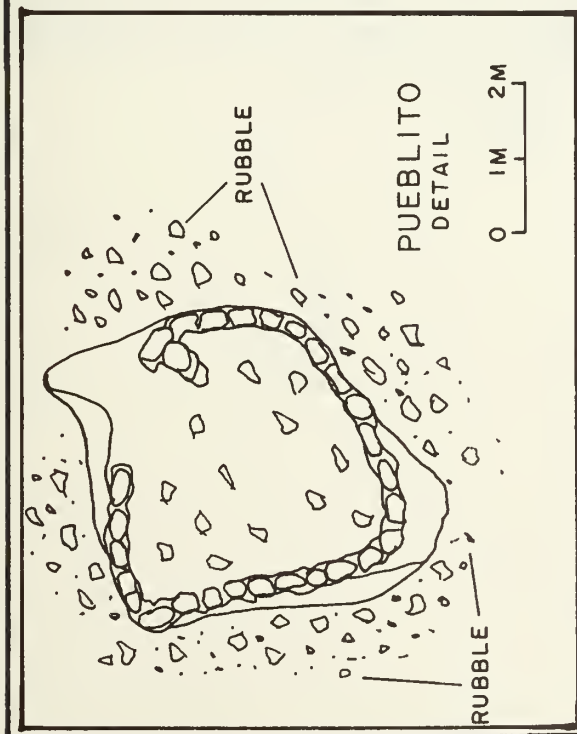
**Setting:** The site is in a small rincon on a bench of Delgadita Mesa. It has a restricted view of the area across a minor canyon. The pueblito sits on an isolated boulder. The area is within the piñon-juniper woodland, part of which has been chained.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito on a boulder, a burned rock pile and an extensive midden. The pueblito contains either two rooms or one room with an entry passage. The

burned rock pile covers about 5 x 10m. The midden is concentrated to the west, northeast, and east of the pueblito. It contains many examples of Dinéah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome and some pieces of animal bone.

**Condition:** The masonry is in poor condition. Although a few sections stand nearly 80cm high, many of the walls have been reduced to foundations. The midden areas, however, appear to be at least 20cm deep. There is little evidence of casual surface collecting. A few animal burrows have disturbed part of the western midden area.

**Significance:** The site is significant primarily for its potential to contribute to archeological studies. In particular, the midden deposits have the potential to yield artifact, environmental, and subsistence samples pertinent to studies of economics, subsistence, social organization, and demography.



BURNED  
SANDSTONE

CAGLE'S SITE  
LA 55826

TN



0 2M 4M



**Site No.:** LA 55827

**Site Name (for registration):** Canyon View Ruin

**Other Designations:** Site 6/Largo #5 (Malcolm F. Farmer 1938); E-CL-UL-L (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and Ronald Kurtz 1957)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Noted by Van Valkenburgh 1937(?); surface collection and tree-ring samples – Navajo Land Claim; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a northward spur of a mesa. The site has a view up and down Largo Canyon about five miles and up a tributary about two miles. The site is located on a sandstone outcrop on a bench near the tip of the mesa. The vegetation cover is a piñon-juniper woodland with an understory of sage, grasses, and other shrubs.

**Description:** The site contains a pueblito on an elevated sandstone outcrop, one or two hogans, and two trash areas. The pueblito has two rooms built as a unit and a third added as an entry. One of the rooms may have been two stories high. Additional wall segments in the rubble below the outcrop suggest that there is at least one more room. This room may be one of the hogans noted by the Navajo Land Claim. The other hogan is barely visible as a few

wooden members beneath the rubble and vegetation.

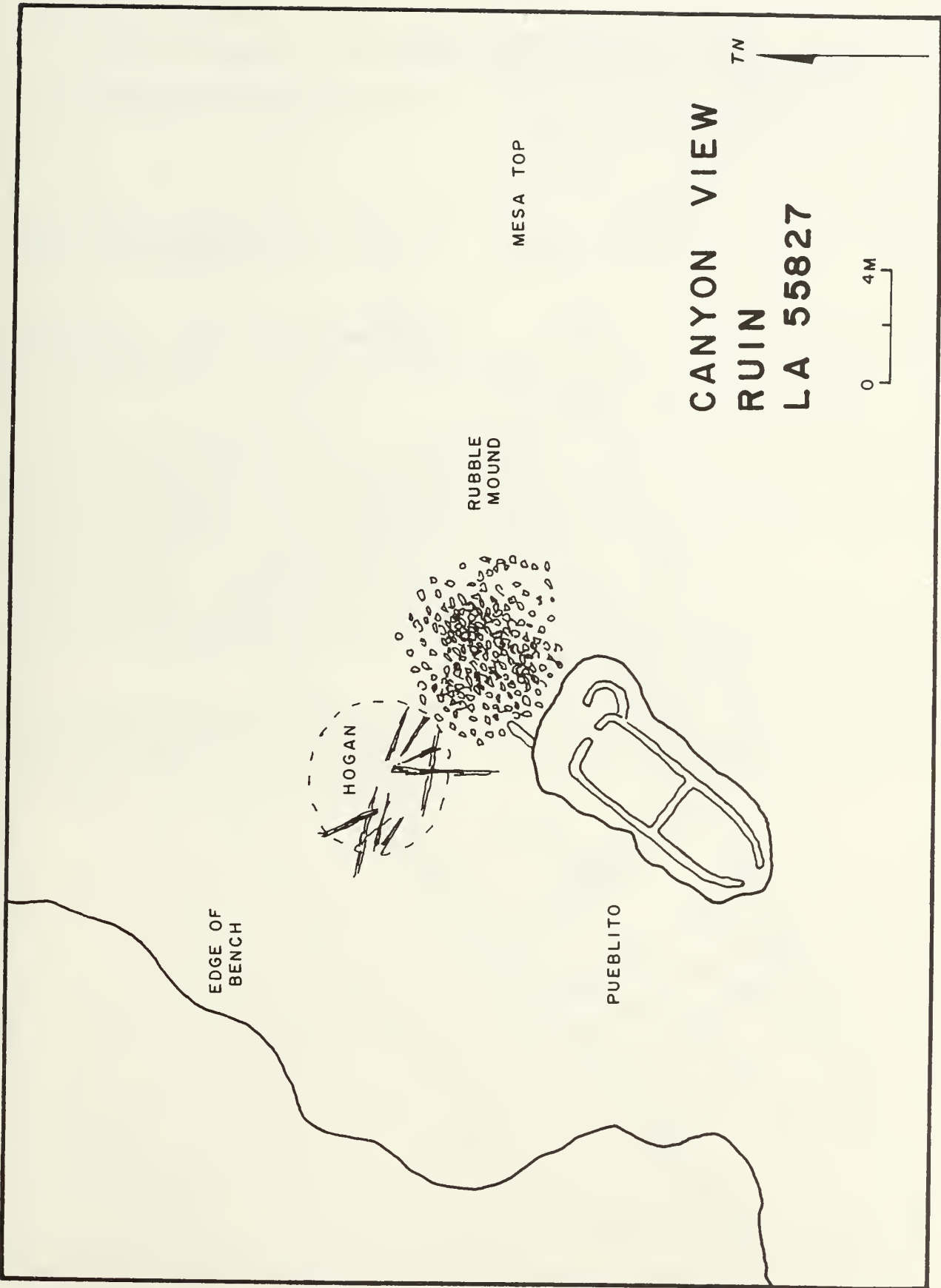
The trash areas are concentrated north, northeast, and southeast of the pueblito. Dinetah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome predominate but a few pieces of Jemez Black-on-white and Acoma ceramics were reported. Scrapers and flakes of petrified wood and quartzite are also present. A mano was also found in the midden.

**Dating:** The Navajo Land Claim collected the following datable tree-ring samples:

1701	1721	1724G	1725
1727	1727	1734G	

**Condition:** The wall height varies from about 10cm at each end of the pueblito to nearly 2m in the central portion. A few roof timbers remain in place in one of the rooms. Cultural fill within the two upper rooms ranges from 45 to 60cm and appears to consist of collapsed roofing material. The extensive rubble at the north end apparently obscures at least one hogan and one room. The average depth of the middens appears to be 20cm.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture. Its form and construction technique is typical of Gobernador Period sites. The site contains *in situ* deposits that are potentially significant for archeological studies of ethnic relations, economics, social organization, demography, and warfare.



# CANYON VIEW RUIN

## LA 55827

TN

0 1M



WALL SEGMENT  
AT BASE OF  
BOULDER

SANDSTONE

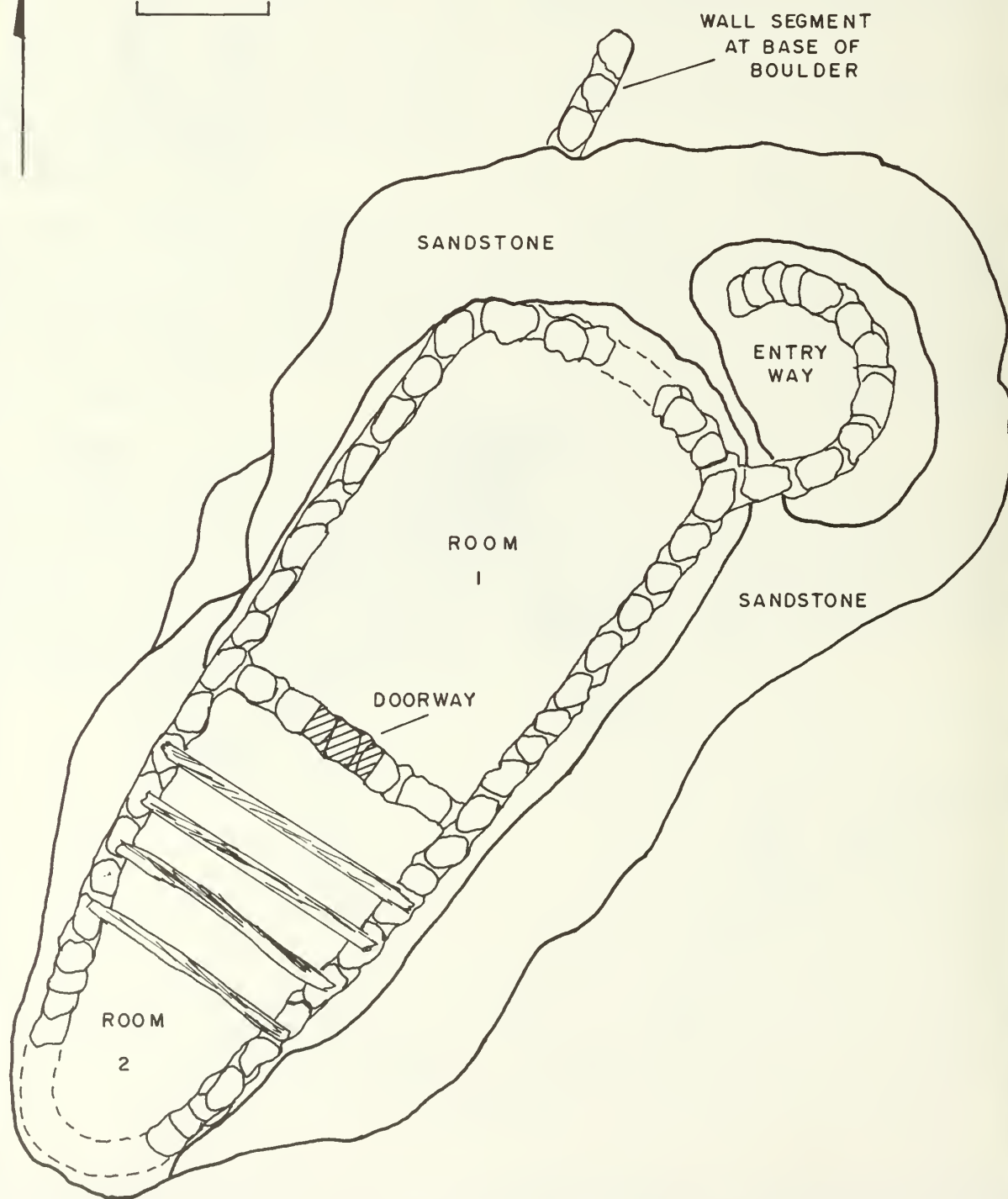
ENTRY  
WAY

ROOM  
1

SANDSTONE

DOORWAY

ROOM  
2



**Site No.:** LA 55828

**Site Name (for registration):** The Citadel

**Other Designations:** State Ruin, Site III (J. Loring Haskell 1974), Crow Lake Site

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Described by Haskell 1974; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the west edge of a small canyon. It occupies a detached boulder and part of the valley floor generally within the piñon-juniper woodland. Sage covers the valley floor. The Wall is visible from the site.

**Description:** The site contains a boulder-top pueblito, a few small alcoves that may have been used for storage, and a midden area. The pueblito consists of two two-story rooms with an intervening covered passage. The passage opens onto a small courtyard once enclosed by a wall along the outer edge of the boulder. There are two doors into the passage from the outside. The first faces northwest and has been sealed with masonry. The second faces west and had been partially blocked with masonry.

The building of the pueblito appears to have been a single construction episode as shown by the bonding of the wall junctures. Both ground-floor rooms and the second-story door of one room open onto the courtyard. Both ground-

floor rooms contain loopholes, some of which have been plugged with adobe. One room has diagonal beams set in three corners and the second room has wood-roofed bins in one corner of each floor. One small masonry room was built below the boulder and some small alcoves along the cliff edge may have been used for storage. The midden covers an area about 15 x 30m. Arroyo cuts show that the deposits are about 20cm thick. Ceramics – Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray – are the dominant constituent of the midden. Burned animal bones are also present.

**Condition:** The masonry of the pueblito is in excellent condition. Roof members and wooden lintels are present. Part of the current door into the passage was removed after 1975 to facilitate climbing into the pueblito. The masonry would benefit from protective stabilization. The midden has been cut by the wash that passes below the pueblito and continues to be affected by small-scale erosion. Some minor potting has occurred in the midden and alcoves. With the exception of some stream erosion, the site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture, for its potential to add to our understanding of social and ethnic relations, and for its potential to contribute to archeological studies. Deposits in the midden, tree-ring samples, and probable *in situ* floor features have the potential to contribute to studies of economics, trade, subsistence, social organization, demography, and defensive strategies.



# THE CITADEL LA 55828

SANDSTONE  
BENCH

0 2M

TN

SEALED  
ENTRY  
WAY

ROOM  
2

PRESENT  
ENTRY  
WAY

ROOM  
1

STORAGE  
ROOM

**Site No.:** LA 55829

**Site Name (for registration):** Cottonwood Divide Site

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Surface collection (one broken Dinétah Gray jar) and National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association.

**Setting:** The site is on a small steep-sided butte on a saddle on the divide between two tributaries to Largo Canyon. The site is covered with scrub vegetation and a few juniper trees. Piñon-juniper woodland covers the surrounding mesas. The site has a view of both tributary canyons and parts of Largo Canyon and the mesas on the east side of Largo.

**Description:** The site contains five collapsed forked-stick hogans and remnants of a defensive wall. The parapet is best preserved along the west and northwest edges of the butte. At least two of the hogans contain slab

fireboxes or bins. The artifacts include a fragment of a metate and Dinétah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome sherds. The trash is located both on the top of the butte around the hogans and in the crevices between talus boulders on the sides of the crag.

**Condition:** The defensive walls stand approximately 50 to 60cm high. The hogans are collapsed in a wheel-spoke pattern but some of the framing poles still stand in an inclined position. The slab bins in the hogans have been dug out by vandals but otherwise the hogans are in very good condition compared to similar sites. The trash deposits appear to have a maximum depth of 20cm.

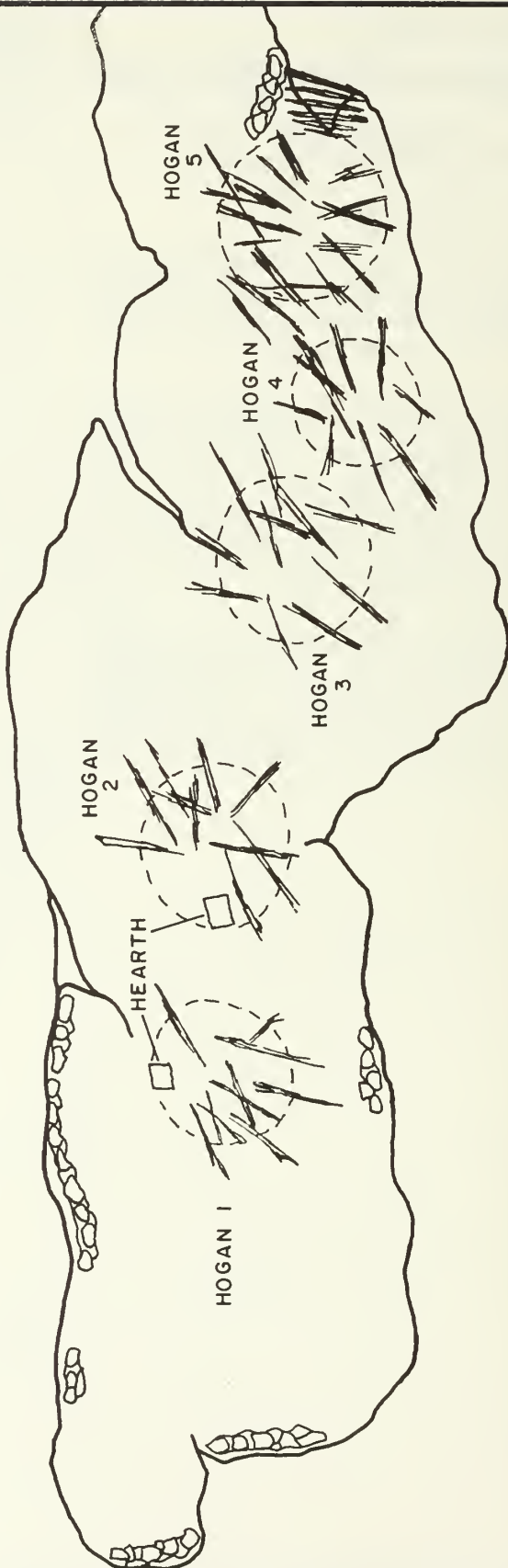
**Significance:** The site is significant for its potential to contribute to archeological studies. Its position on the landscape and its defensive architecture may contribute to studies of warfare and raiding. The hogans appear to contain *in situ* floor features and deposits that should be useful in studies of economics and social organization. The absence of pueblito architecture may indicate that the site was occupied in the mid 1700s and may reflect a period of declining Puebloan influence in Dinétah.

COTTONWOOD  
DIVIDE  
LA 55829



0 5 M

SANDSTONE CRAG  
WITH 5 METER DROP  
ON ALL SIDES



**Site No.:** LA 55830

**Site Name (for registration):** Hadlock's Crow Canyon #1

**Other Designations:** Crow Canyon #1 (San Juan Archaeological Society – Harry L. Hadlock)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a first bench and forms a low knoll on the point of the bench but is not in a defensive situation. The site is at the transition between piñon-juniper woodland on the benches and sage and other shrubs in the valley bottoms.

**Description:** The site consists of a con-

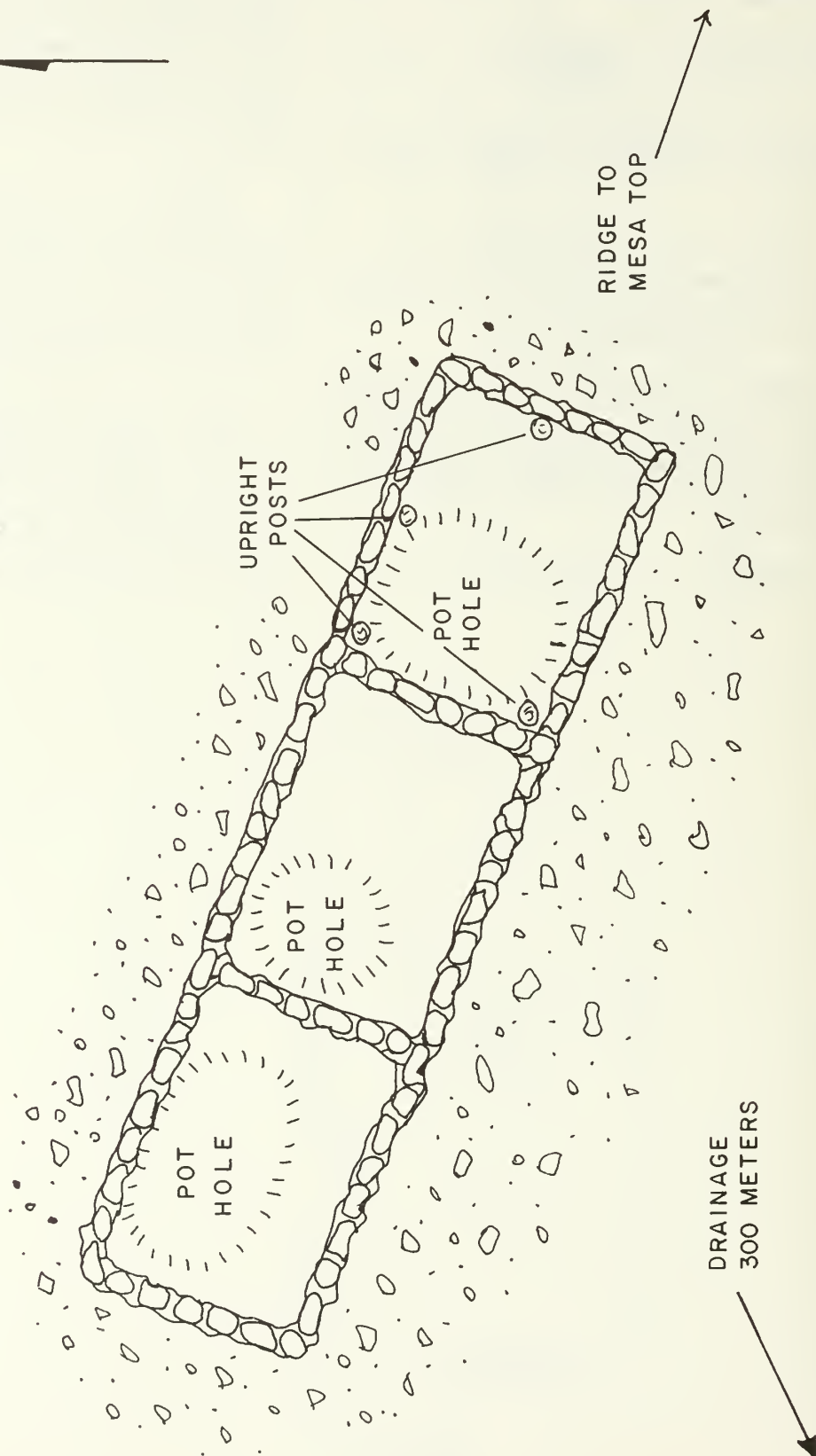
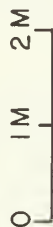
tiguous three-room pueblito in a rubble mound with scattered trash and midden areas to the south and west. One of the three rooms shows the use of upright posts (with butt-end up) to support the roof. The principal artifacts in the trash are Gobernador Polychrome and Dinetah Gray sherds.

**Condition:** All three rooms contain potholes that have been dug into the fill. Approximately 40% of the pueblito has been disturbed; however, the remaining fill appears to be about 1m deep. The trash deposit ranges from about 10cm to 30cm in some pockets. The site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site is significant primarily for its potential to contribute to studies of economics, trade, settlement, social organization, and demography. Although the pueblito is partly reduced to rubble, the depth of fill and the presence of upright posts suggest that architectural features are also preserved.



# HADLOCK'S CROW CANYON #1 LA 55830



**Site No.:** LA 55831

**Site Name (for registration):** Gomez Canyon Ruin

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is situated on a small sandstone point near Gomez Canyon. It is an area of piñon-juniper woodland with an understory of sage, Mormon tea, prickly pear, bitterbrush and saltbush.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, four forked-stick hogans, at least two midden areas, two piles of burned sandstone, and a few slab features. The pueblito consists of (1) two rooms built by subdividing an outer wall that conforms to the outline of a protruding sandstone outcrop, (2) a rectangular roofed storage area on a lower level within the outer wall and, (3) a third room, built below the outcrop on the north side, whose roof probably provided access to the doorway in the north wall of the upper structure. The doorway is a typical construction feature with a wooden lintel

and the sides of the doorway framed by two masonry pillars to narrow the doorway. Primary roof beams are in place in one room; other beams are scattered at the base of the outcrop. Dinetah Gray pottery is the principal type of artifact in the trash deposits. Midden deposits extend under mounds of soil accumulated under the trees around the site.

**Condition:** The walls of the rooms on the outcrop range from 50cm to 1.5m in height. The walls at the base of the outcrop are about 50cm high. Beams from the roofs have been thrown from the pueblitos to the base of the outcrop. The pueblito would benefit from stabilization. The structures contain about 10 to 30cm of fill; the midden areas probably are about 30cm deep. Some trash has eroded down the slopes below the pueblito. With the exception of this downslope erosion, the site is environmentally stable.

**Significance:** Gomez Canyon Ruin contains potentially datable timbers, extensive midden deposits, and two types of Navajo architecture. The site is significant for its architecture and its potential to contribute to studies of economics, social organization, and defensive strategies.

GOMEZ CANYON  
RUIN  
LA 55831

TN

0 10M 20M

EDGE OF  
BENCH

SAND-  
STONE

SAND-  
STONE

HOGAN  
1

HOGAN  
2

HOGAN  
3

HOGAN  
4

BURNED  
SANDSTONE

LOWER BENCH

EDGE OF  
BENCH

BURNED  
SANDSTONE

GOMEZ CANYON  
RUIN  
LA 55831

TN

0 1M

EDGE OF  
SANDSTONE  
BENCH

ROOM  
4

INTACT  
CEILING  
OF  
ROOM 3

ROOM 3  
LIES BELOW THE  
FLOOR LEVEL OF  
ROOMS 1 AND 2

ROOM  
1

ROOM  
3

ROOM  
2



**Site No.:** LA 55832

**Site Name (for registration):** Gomez Point Site

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a narrow promontory projecting east from the top of the mesa into Largo Canyon. The vegetation on the mesa and benches includes piñon, juniper, sage, Mormon tea, cacti, and grasses. Sage flats dominate the valleys below.

**Description:** The site consists of three non-contiguous masonry structures – one with two rooms – and several midden areas enclosed by a defensive wall. The structures occupy the

west end, the middle, and the eastern end of the point. The middens are scattered among the structures. One trash area lies below the point on the southwest side. Dinetah Gray is the principal artifact in the midden. A slab metate and two manos are also present.

**Condition:** The site is in fair condition. Only a remnant of the defensive wall remains. The structures have been heavily reduced with the highest walls standing 50 to 70cm. A few primary beams and some roofing fragments remain in the two-room structure. The fill in that structure is about 30cm. The fill in the middens and other structures is less than 20cm.

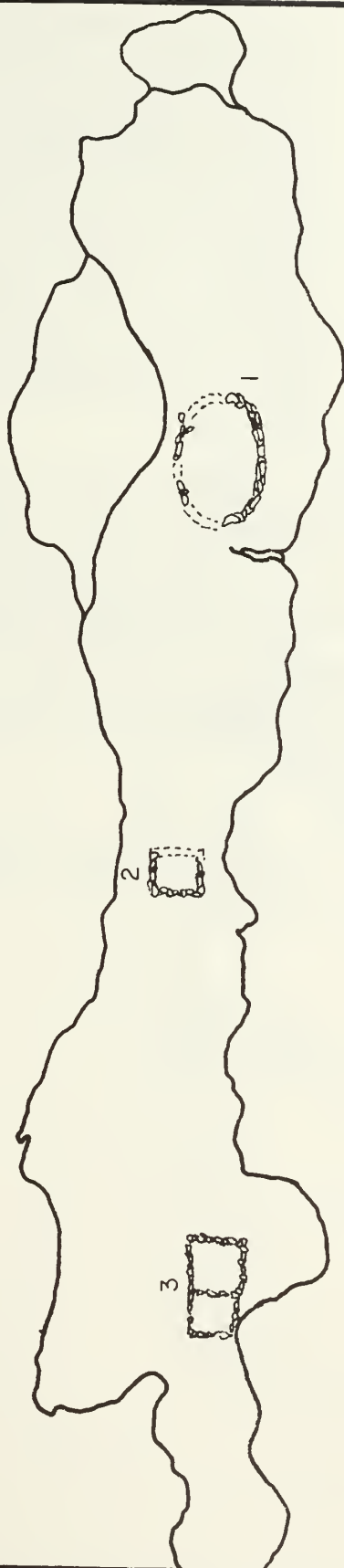
**Significance:** The site is significant primarily for its potential to contribute to archeological studies. The contents of the midden and floor features, the pattern of architectural units, and the position of the site on the landscape may contribute to studies of defensive tactics, visual communication, and economics.

GOMEZ POINT SITE  
LA 55832

TN



0 5M 10M



**Site No.:** LA 55833

**Site Name (for registration):** Hill Road Ruin

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is at the head of a small sandstone draw running north into a major canyon. The site is on the west side of the draw on a small boulder outcrop. The vegetation around the site is a mixture of piñon, juniper, and dense oak thickets. Visibility from the site is limited to a view north down the drainage and down the main canyon a short way. A small seep is evident at the head of the drainage a few meters south of the site.

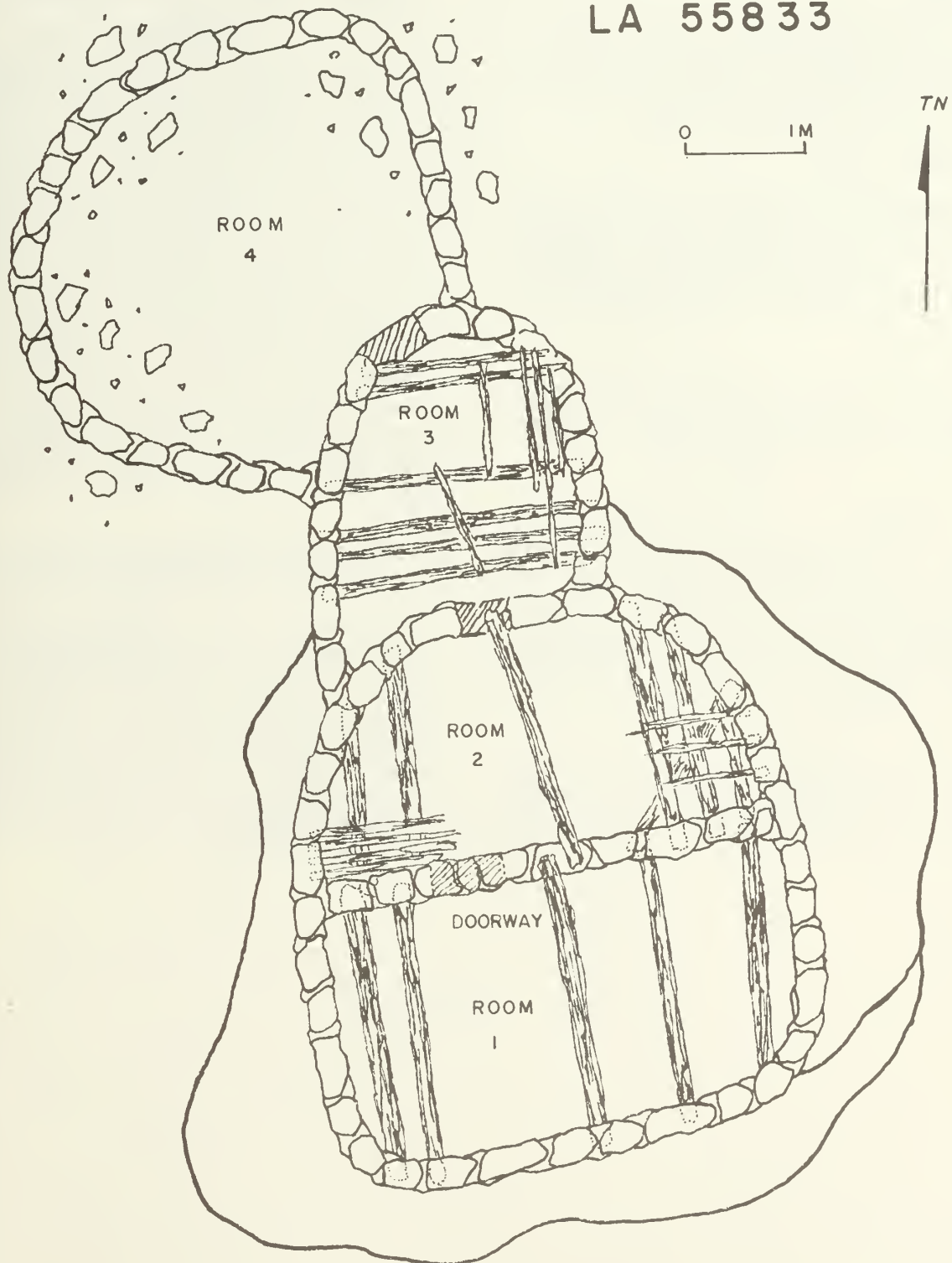
**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, showing three construction episodes, a possible hogan or windbreak, and surrounding trash deposits. The original unit consisted of two rooms built within a continuous outer wall on top of the outcrop. These rooms have partially intact roofs and appear to be single story. Loopholes and a corner diagonal beam are present. A door through the partition wall connects the two rooms. The third room (second construction episode) is two stories in height

and has a partial first-floor ceiling. Because this room was built on a lower part of the outcrop, access to the original two-room unit was from the second story of this room. A door also opens from the third room to the northwest onto the rubble of the fourth room (third construction event). Some of the roof beams have been trimmed with an iron axe or adze. A small fallen wall on the east side of the draw may be a windbreak or hogan entrance. The trash deposits are found thinly scattered on the bench north and west of the pueblito and in deeper pockets below the outcrop to the east of the pueblito. Dinetah Gray ceramics, a few pieces of bone, and a few flakes were the only artifacts on the surface.

**Condition:** With the exception of the fourth room, which consists of a mound of rubble, the pueblito is in excellent condition. The walls of the first story stand about 2m high; the walls of the second story vary from 5cm to 1.2m above the first floor ceiling. The fill within the rooms ranges from 0 to about 40cm. The walls and ceilings of the pueblito would benefit from stabilization. Trash deposits on the bench are probably less than 10cm deep. Those below the outcrop appear to vary from 10 to 60(?)cm thick.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential to contribute to archeological studies of social organization and economics.

HILL ROAD RUIN  
LA 55833



**Site No.:** LA 55834

**Site Name (for registration):** Pueblito East Ruin

**Other Designations:** Pueblito Canyon B (Columbia University – Dorothy L. Keur 1941); N-USJ-GLJ-V (Navajo Land Claim – Maxwell Yazzie and Clyde Peshlakai 1956)

**Owner:** USFS

**Prior Work:** Excavation of one hogan – Keur 1941; surface collection and tree-ring collection – Navajo Land Claim 1956; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a projection of a sandstone ridge into Pueblito Canyon. The relatively dense tree cover (piñon-juniper woodland) restricts the view to the northwest.

**Description:** The site consists of a pueblito, three forked-stick hogans, and three piles of burned sandstone. The pueblito contains three rooms on the upper surface of the outcrop and two more at the base. One hogan was excavated by Keur. The rock piles are all located on the east side of a shallow drainage east of the pueblito. The northern pile appears to correspond to Keur's sweathouse.

Trash deposits on the site include Dinetah Gray and Gobernador Polychrome. They also contained some Payupki Black-on-yellow sherds and one metal projectile point. At the time of Keur's excavation there were also two log lad-

ders embedded in the fill near the entrance to the upper pueblito rooms.

**Dating:** There are two tree-ring dates (1713 and 1679) from the site.

**Condition:** The pueblito is in fair condition; however, since Keur's investigation, the roofs (which were partially intact or collapsed *in situ*) have been removed. The boulder top walls now range from 50cm to 1m in height; in 1941 they stood nearly 1.0-2m high. One of the hogans (Keur's hogan 1, Navajo Land Claim's hogan 5) had been excavated by Keur in 1941, but since 1956, a second hogan (Keur's hogan 2, Navajo Land Claim's hogan 4) has been vandalized. A pile of polychrome sherds lies near the vandalized structure. Potholes have also been dug in one of the boulder-top rooms. Protruding segments of wall on top of the boulder and roof beams trapped beneath sandstone slabs show that the southeastern edge of the outcrop collapsed sometime after the pueblito was built but before 1941. The third hogan is no longer visible.

The trash deposits are largely intact as are the cultural fills in the two lower pueblito rooms.

**Significance:** The site is significant primarily for its ability to yield archeological data. A few of the remaining timbers on the site may be datable. Substantial deposits still exist in the rooms at the base of the outcrop and the trash deposits. Other deposits and floor features probably remain in the boulder-top rooms and the remaining hogan. The site would probably contribute principally to studies of economics and social organization.



PUEBLITO EAST  
RUIN  
LA 55834

TN

0 5 M 10 M

MESA  
TOP

PUEBLITO

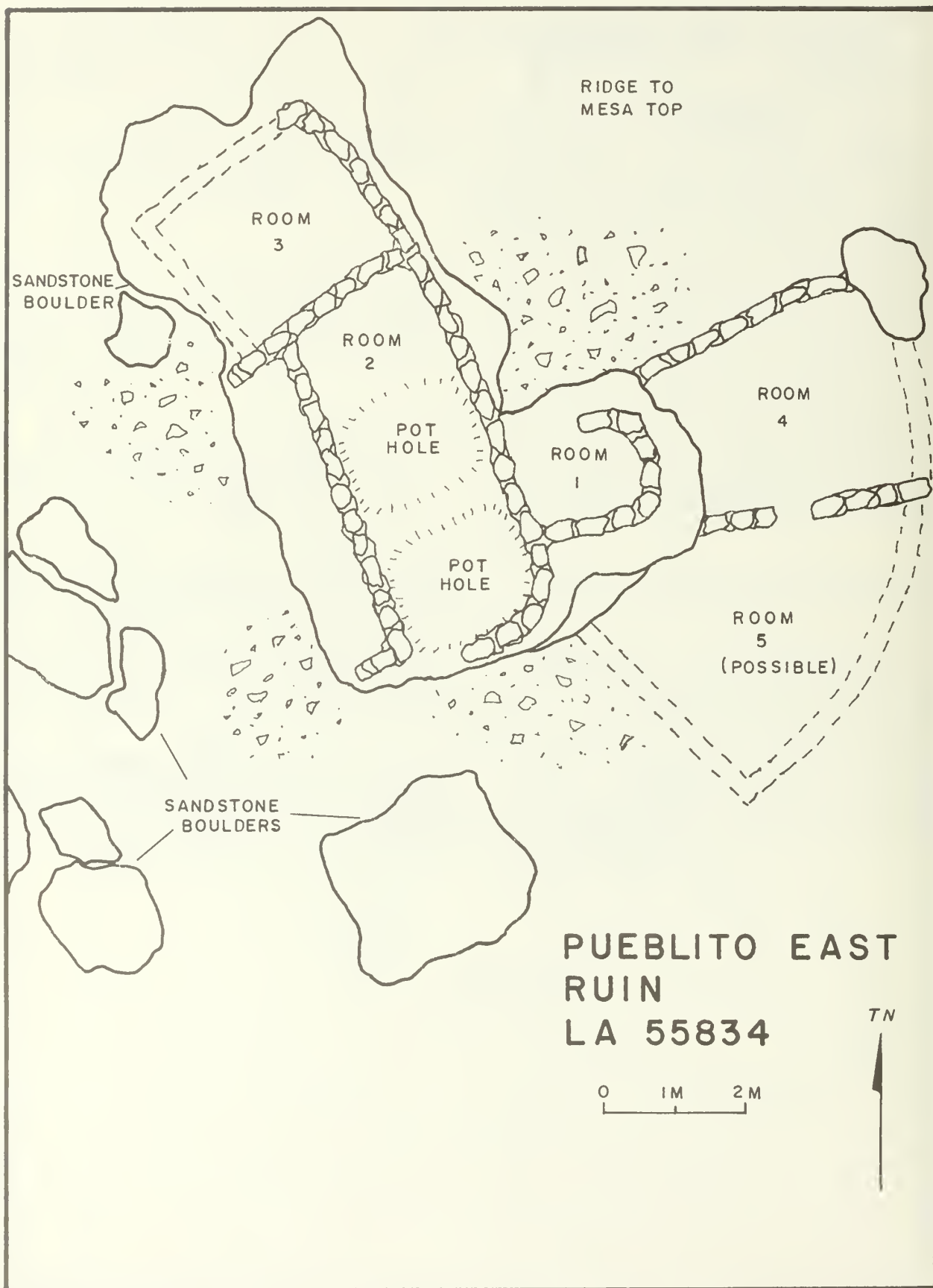
KEUR-HOGAN 3

APPROX.  
LOCATIONS  
OF OTHER  
HOGANS

BURNED  
SANDSTONE

KEUR-HOGAN 1  
(EXCAVATED)

KEUR-  
HOGAN  
2



**Site No.:** LA 55835

**Site Name (for registration):** Rincon Rockshelter

**Other Designations:** Carrizo 27-6-4 (Harry L. Hadlock 1962)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – Hadlock 1962: National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site overlooks the head of a small rincon. The site is located on the edge of the mesa, in a rockshelter halfway down the cliff, and on the ledge below the shelter. The site is inaccessible except by rope from above or by ladder from the ledge below. The site has a view of the tributary canyon and the mesa on the opposite of the tributary.

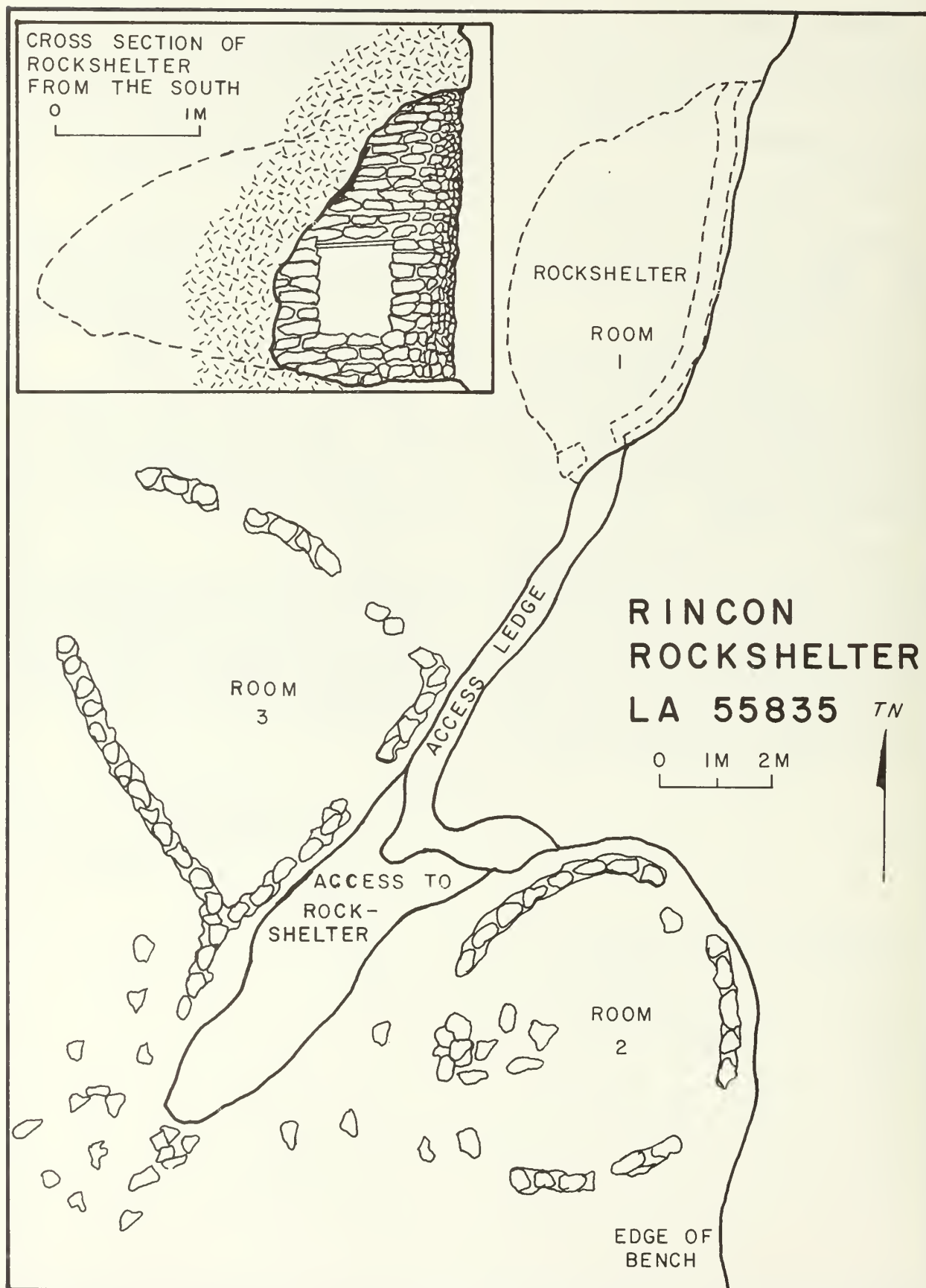
**Description:** The site consists of a walled rockshelter, masonry rooms on the cliff edge above, and midden debris on the bench below. The masonry wall that encloses the rockshelter is about 6m long and about 2m high. The wall contains several loopholes, one of which covers the lower approach to the shelter. The interior is heavily covered with mud mortar bearing many fingerprints. A portion of the sooted mortar has been repaired with unsooted mortar. A

door with cottonwood lintels is built in the south end of the wall. Outside the door is a crevice that leads to the mesa top about 4m above. On the edge of the cliff are low walls outlining two rooms – one on either side of the crevice. These rooms may have been part of an entrance to the rockshelter. The rock at the top of the cliff appears to have been burned.

Several trash areas containing Dinetah Gray ceramics occur both below the rockshelter and on the mesa bench above. One small triangular point with shallow side notches and a concave base was found in one of the upper midden areas. A fragment of a wooden cradle board was found in a nearby overhang.

**Condition:** Little remains of the upper rooms but foundations. The rockshelter, however, is pristine with virtually no deterioration. There is little or no fill in the shelter and about 50cm of fill in parts of the upper rooms. The trash deposits range from 10 to 30cm in thickness.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture and for its potential contribution to archeological studies. Besides its defensive features, the site contains artifacts and samples that are useful for studies of subsistence, social organization, and demography. The likelihood of obtaining floral and faunal samples from the midden is good.



**Site No.:** LA 55836

**Site Name (for registration):** Romine Canyon Ruin

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a sandstone crag that protrudes west from a mesa bench. It has a view of Romine Canyon and Romine Mesa, but no other pueblitos are known to be within its field of view. The vegetation on the mesa and its benches is piñon-juniper woodland; the valley floor is sage-covered.

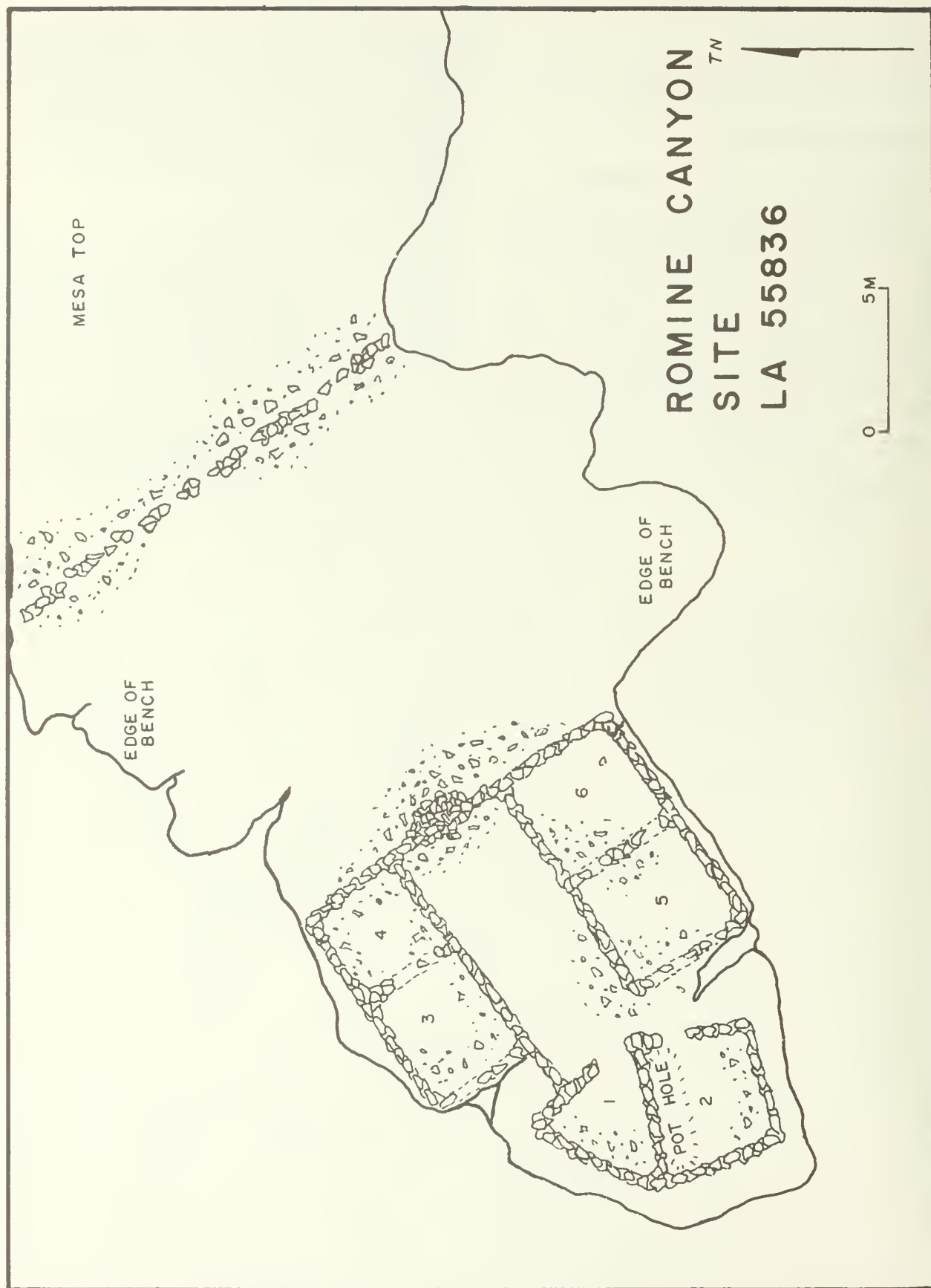
**Description:** The site consists of a single-

story six-room pueblito with an entry way or courtyard, midden areas, and a defensive wall that isolates the pueblito from the rest of the bench. The pueblito rooms occur as three pairs of rooms with a central courtyard or passage. The walls conform to the shape of the crag. The trash deposits are located both on the crag within the defensive wall and below the crag to the north.

**Condition:** The walls of the pueblito vary in height from just a few foundation stones to about 1m. Portions of the walls and the roofing timbers have fallen south to the base of the crag. Some of the timbers appear to be datable. The fill within the rooms and midden areas ranges from about 20cm to 50cm.

**Significance:** The site is significant primarily for its potential to contribute to archeological studies – social organization, subsistence and trade, demography, and defensive strategies.





**Site No.:** LA 55837

**Site Name (for registration):** Romine Ranch Site

**Other Designations:** Probably LA 1873/Site 7 (Erwin and Kelly – Museum of New Mexico 1934)

**Owner:** Private (Arthur R. Webb)

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on the point of a ridge protruding southwest from a mesa. The point is separated from the ridge by a narrow saddle. The southwestern tip of the point and adjoining sides have sheer, undercut walls about 80 feet high. The site has been colonized by sage while the rest of the ridge is covered with piñon-juniper woodland.

**Description:** The site consists of a series of masonry rooms scattered over the surface of the outcrop. A defensive wall blocks access from the saddle. Other remnants of a defensive parapet remain on the northwestern edge of the point. The northern defensive wall is breached in the center by an apparent entry passage.

Two to three rooms adjoin the northern defensive wall. Two other rooms or series of wall alignments occur on the center of the point. Low walls also are found on the southern edge. The form of the rooms or courtyards is not clear because the walls are considerably reduced and the vegetation cover is dense.

Artifacts are generally sparse but both Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray ceramics are present.

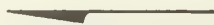
**Condition:** The walls of the rooms stand only 20cm to 50cm high throughout most of the site. Wood and stone may have been salvaged from the pueblito to build structures associated with the ranch which lies northwest of the point. The northern defensive wall is about 1m high in places. Although a few roof beams are evident, none appear to be *in situ*. The cultural fill ranges from little or none at the southern tip of the promontory to about 50cm at the center and northern end.

**Significance:** Although the walls are considerably reduced, the site contains significant data pertaining to defensive systems of the Gobernador Phase. Pollen, flotation, and faunal samples may also be present in the fill within the defensive walls and in deposits at the base of the promontory.

MESA  
TOP

ROMINE RANCH<sup>TN</sup>  
SITE  
LA 55837

0 5M 10M



**Site No.:** LA 55838

**Site Name (for registration):** Star Rock  
Refuge

**Other Designations:** Hollis Pass Site  
(BLM files)

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

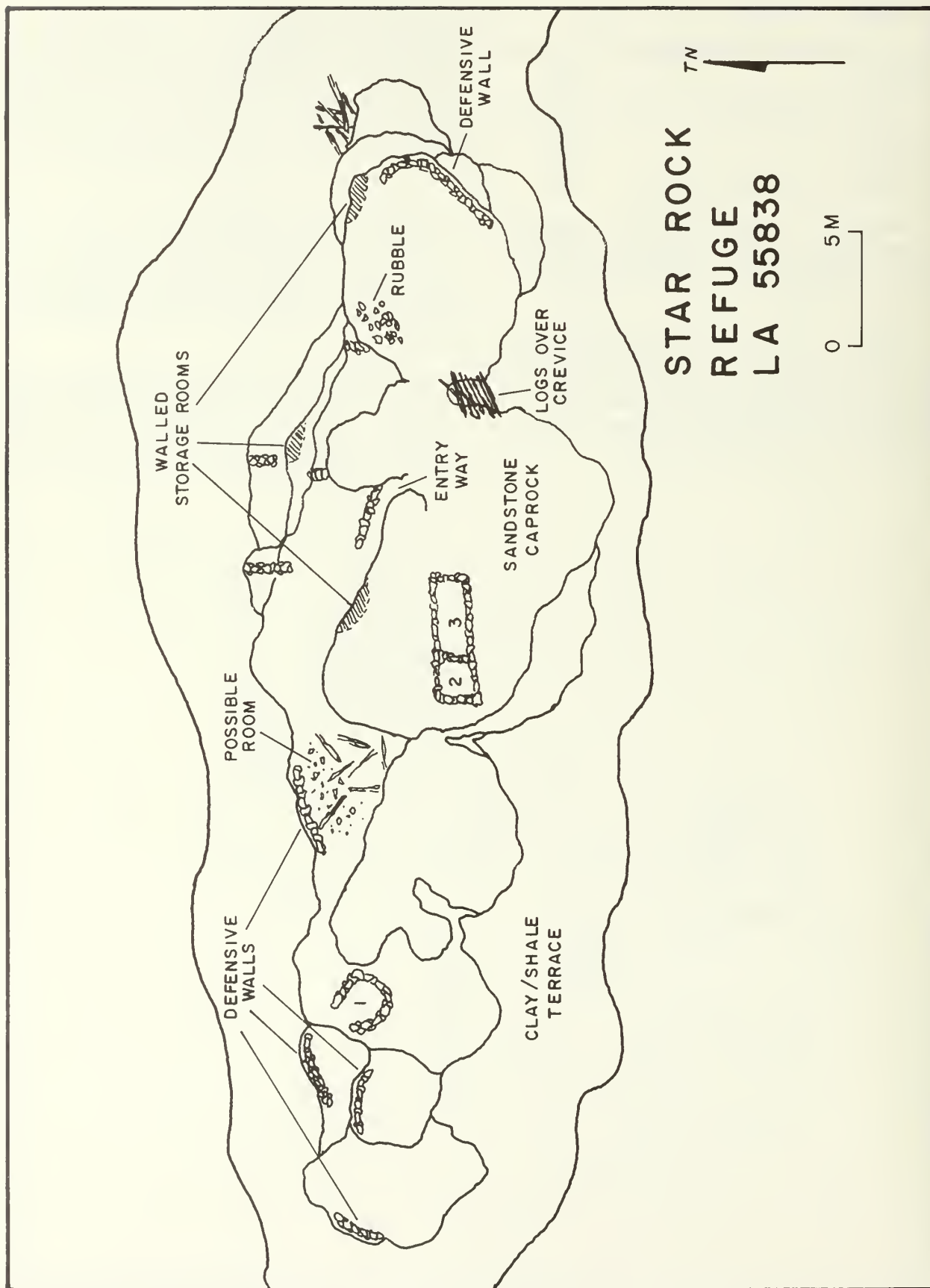
**Prior Work:** Noted by Harry L. Hadlock;  
National Register documentation – M. Powers  
and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum As-  
sociation 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site occupies a semi-  
detached sandstone point between two  
branches of a canyon. The site has a cover of  
sage and grasses; the benches and mesa sur-  
rounding it are covered with juniper, mountain  
mahogany, serviceberry, and sage.

**Description:** The site contains a two-room  
pueblito, one semicircular masonry room, a  
restrictive door controlling access to the top of  
the crag, a second dead-end access on the side  
of the crag, and a possible stone-based hogan  
at the tip of the point. Other rooms are indi-  
cated by wall segments. The highest areas of  
the point are partly surrounded by parapet walls.

**Condition:** The two-room pueblito stands  
about 1m high and contains 20-30cm of fill. Al-  
though some roofing material is present in the  
fill, some roof beams have been tossed out of  
the structure. The lack of surface artifacts sug-  
gests that the deposits are largely covered with  
colluvium.

**Significance:** The site is primarily sig-  
nificant for its ability to contribute to studies of  
defensive tactics and economics. The struc-  
tures may also contain intact floor features and  
*in situ* samples for pollen and flotation studies.





**Site No.:** LA 55839

**Site Name (for registration):** Tower of the Standing God

**Other Designations:** E-CL-UL-PP (Navajo Land Claim – J. Lee Correll and David M. Brugge 1959); Site 12/Rincon Largo 6 (University of Arizona – Malcolm F. Farmer 1938)

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** Surface collection – Navajo Land Claim 1959; tree-ring sample collection – Navajo Land Claim 1959 and Van Valkenburgh(?) 1937; surface collection – Farmer 1938; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site is on a bench on the north side of a mesa. The site overlooks a small side canyon that runs northeast and then east. The vegetation is a piñon-juniper woodland with an understory of oak, sage, mountain mahogany, and other shrubs and grasses. Rincon Largo Ruin (LA 2436) is visible on the north side of the side canyon.

**Description:** The site contains at least three connected masonry rooms nestled on the east side of three large talus boulders. A space created by the talus boulders and the west wall of the roomblock was probably a sheltered work area or courtyard. The foundations of two rooms that may have been part of a tower occupy the top of one of the boulders. Trash deposits occur south, east, and north of the

room units. A few roof timbers and door lintels remain, as well as a short section of a notched log ladder. Previous surveys found a broken glass bead, five projectile points, two manos, a metate, and a few Zia, Zuni/Acoma, and Hopi sherds as well as Dineta Gray and Gobernador Polychrome. Directly below the tower(?) foundation is an incised rendering of a Yé'ii, a Navajo supernatural being. Van Valkenburgh reports that the site was the homestead of Sabil-don, or Antonio, a Navajo chief who was rewarded by the Spanish in 1785 for his aid against the Apache. Brugge (1972), however, associates Antonio with the site of Big Bead Mesa, south of Dinetah.

**Dating:** Van Valkenburgh (1947) reports that the timbers were felled between 1770 and 1785; however, there is no confirmation of these dates in the records of the Tree-Ring Laboratory.

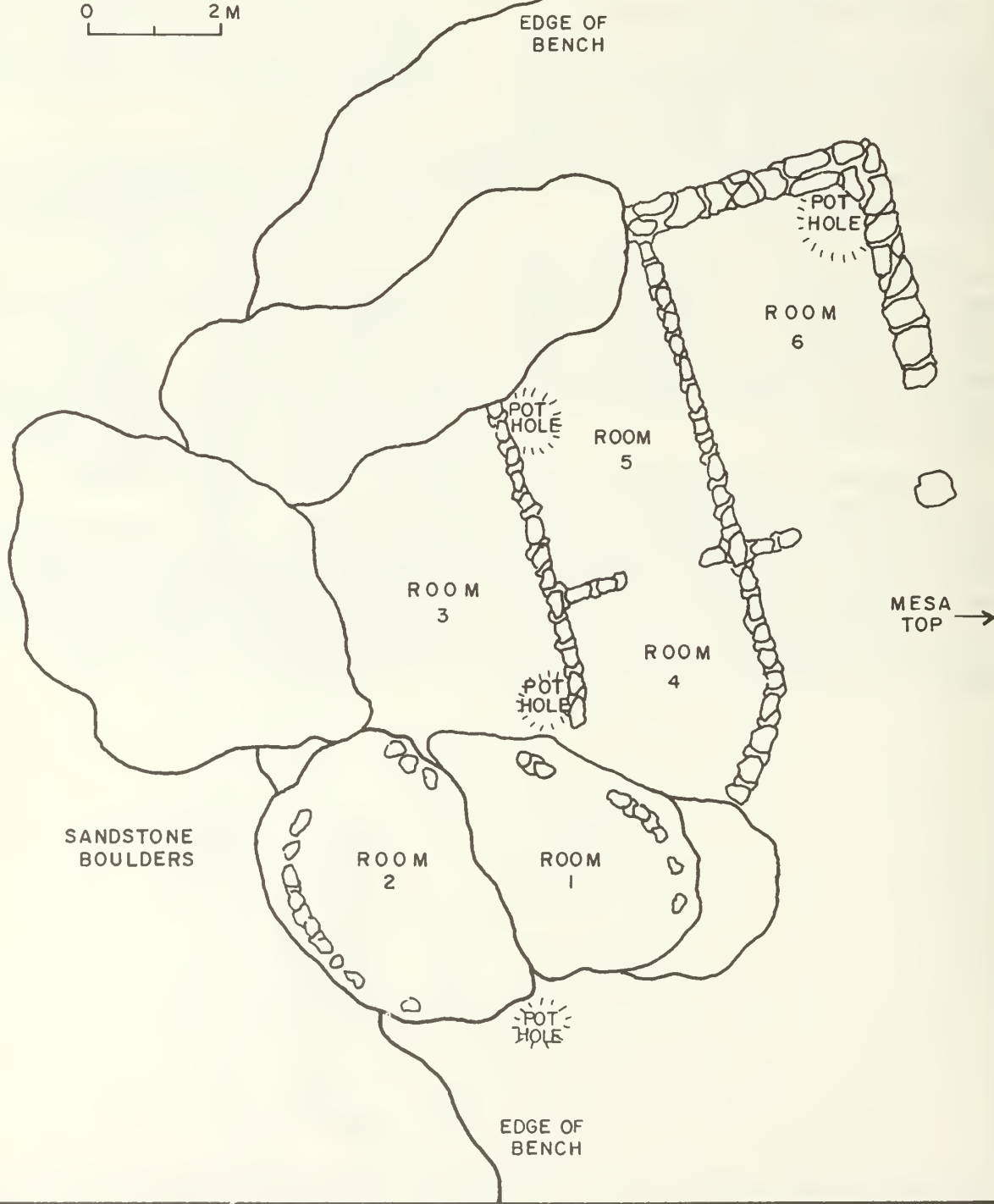
**Condition:** The walls currently stand 0.5 to 1.4m above the fill (estimated to be at least one meter deep in places). The "tower" contains only foundation stones. There are two small potholes in the rooms. Another small pothole has been dug in the "courtyard" and another in the midden south of the boulders. Some trash has eroded down the side of the bench but the site is currently environmentally stable.

**Significance:** The site contains trash deposits and a few potentially datable timbers. Substantial fill appears to be present in the lower rooms. The site is significant for its potential to contribute to studies of economics, social organization, and defensive strategies.

TOWER OF THE  
STANDING GOD  
LA 55839

TN

0 2 M



**Site No.:** LA 55840

**Site Name (for registration):** The Wall

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** State of New Mexico

**Prior Work:** Photographed by Robert Roesel for *Dinetah*; National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

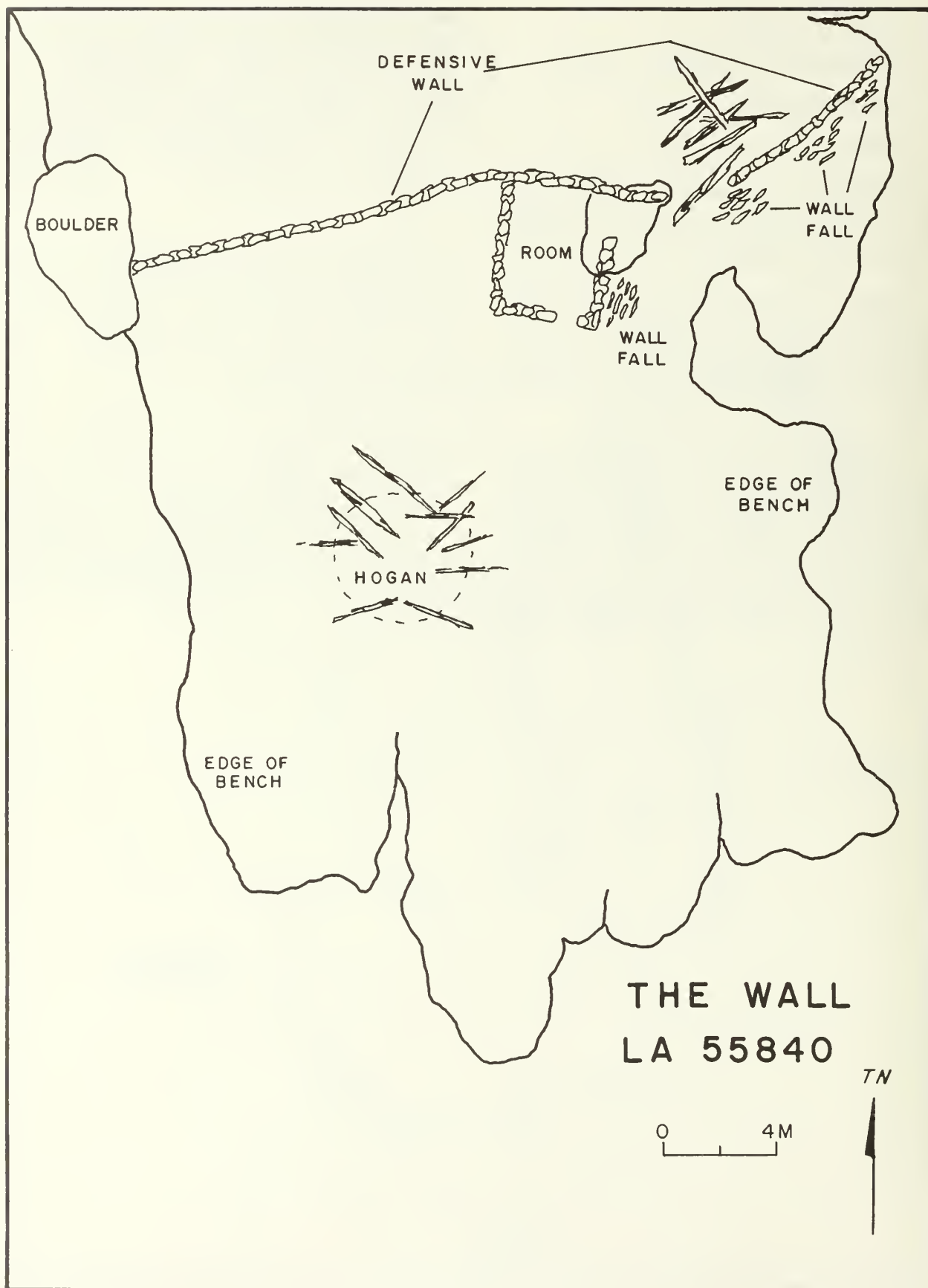
**Setting:** The site is on a southward protruding point of a mesa. The vegetation is primarily piñon and juniper with an understory of shrubs. The soils is very thin and gravelly. The site commands a view of the terrain to the east, south, and west.

**Description:** The site consists of a masonry wall that crosses the neck of the point, one rectangular room abutting the inside of the wall, one forked-stick hogan, and a nest of tumbled timbers. The wall stands nearly two meters tall and is 26m long. The eastern 6m has partly collapsed. Near the eastern end of the wall is a smooth face which apparently marked the edge of an entryway. The pile of timbers lies just

east of this face and apparently is the remains of a timbered entry passage. The single room is less than 1.3m tall and apparently was never any higher. The absence of roofing material in the room and the low walls indicate that construction of the room was never completed. The hogan is about 5m in diameter and lies southwest of the room. Gobernador Polychrome and Dinetah Gray ceramics are present.

**Condition:** With the exception of a few cap stones fallen from the wall and the easternmost section, the wall and room are in excellent condition. Approximately 20cm of fill is present in the room. The hogan is badly disarticulated. The cultural deposits around the hogan average less than 10cm in thickness.

**Significance:** The site is primarily significant for its potential to contribute to archaeological studies. It contains potentially datable timbers. More importantly, it has a view of the terrain to the south, east, and west for many miles and of three or more other Gobernador Phase sites. It is likely to contribute to studies of defensive strategies and visual communications.



**Site No.:** LA 55841

**Site Name (for registration):** Unreachable Rockshelter

**Other Designations:** Unknown

**Owner:** Bureau of Land Management

**Prior Work:** National Register documentation – M. Powers and B. Johnson, San Juan County Museum Association 1985-86.

**Setting:** The site occupies a series of alcoves on the north side of a canyon and the mesa top above it. The site commands a view of the mesas and benches on the south side of the canyon and the narrow canyon floor. The bench below the rockshelters is dissected and littered with talus boulders. The principal vegetation is a moderately dense piñon-juniper woodland. The rockshelters are virtually inaccessible.

**Description:** The site consists of a walled rockshelter containing about three rooms, a series of masonry wall remnants in alcoves and on ledges west of the walled alcove, artifact concentrations and a wood-frame sweatlodge with a pile of burned sandstone on the bench below and 13 forked-stick hogans on the mesa above. The walled rockshelter has a south-facing door and a series of loopholes in the south wall. Be-

cause the shelter cannot be reached without technical aids, the internal layout of the alcove cannot be determined. Both Gobernador Polychrome and Dineta Gray sherds occur in the midden areas.

**Condition:** The eastern two-thirds of the walled rockshelter is intact with the south-facing masonry walls reaching the ceiling of the alcove. The western third appears to stand only 60-70cm high. The remaining wall segments are about 50cm high. A modern wood ladder rests on a ledge below the walled alcove. It was apparently lowered by a rope anchored from above and then abandoned. The extent of the impacts caused by these very determined visitors is unknown.

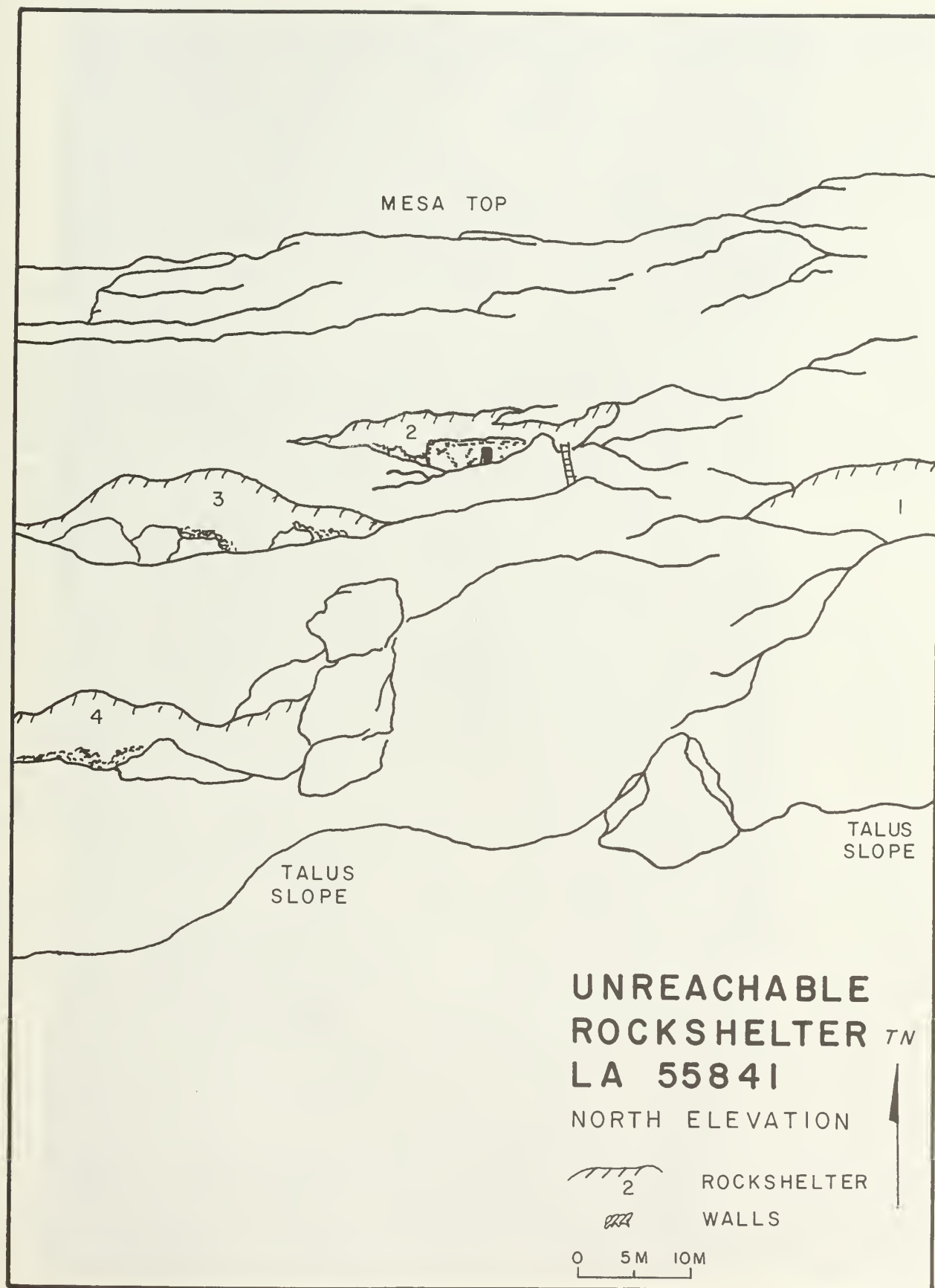
The hogans have collapsed *in situ* and have not been vandalized. A two-track vehicle trail skirts one hogan and crosses the edge of another.

The midden areas on the bench are about 20cm thick. The sweatlodge is partially collapsed but some of the wooden members are still semi-upright.

**Significance:** The site is significant for its architecture, its highly defensible position, and its potential to contain *in situ* artifacts, features, and deposits that could be used in studies of economics and social organization.







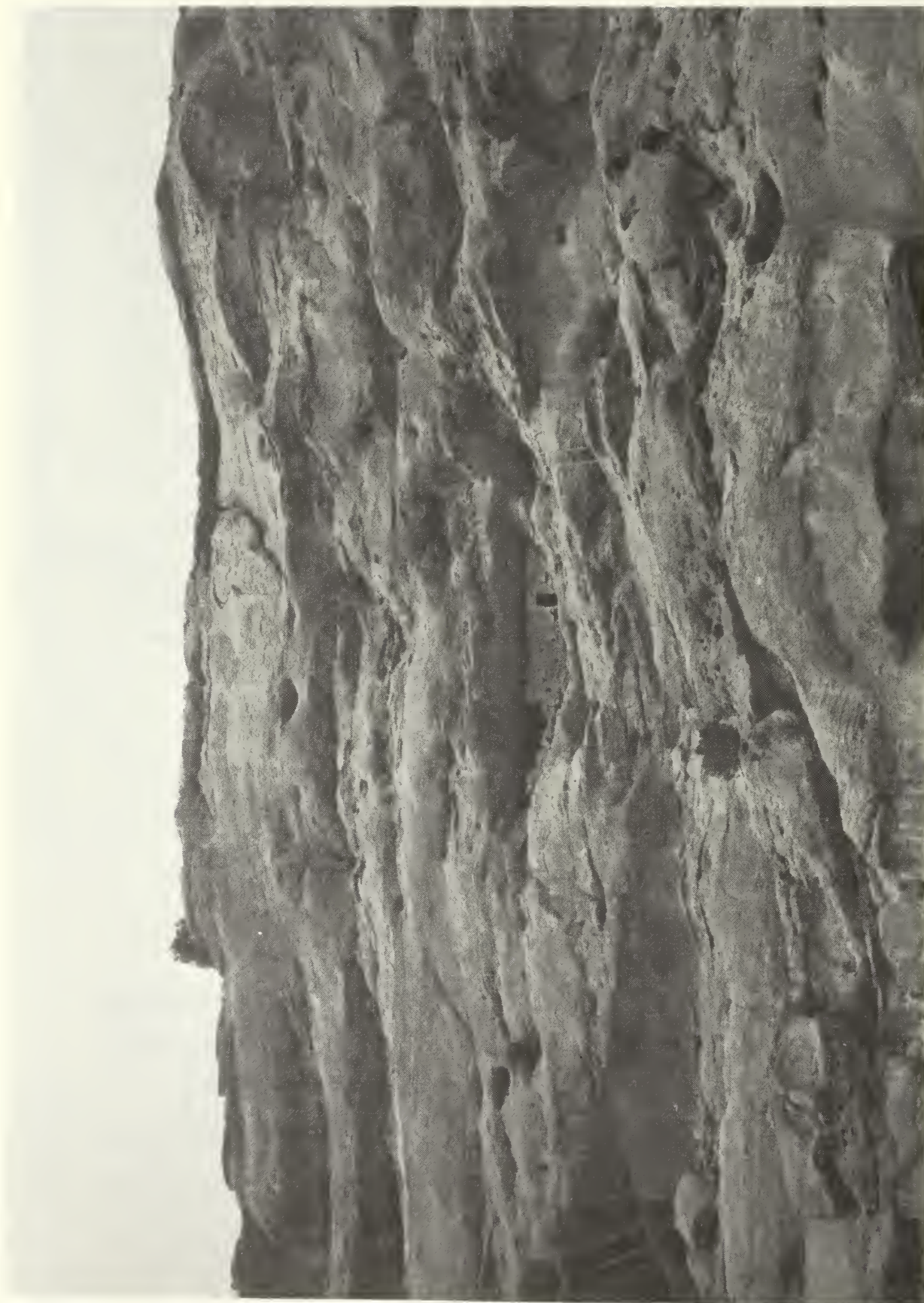


PHOTO 7 : UNREACHABLE ROCKSHELTER — LA 55841

TYPE 4 SITE



## CHAPTER THREE

# DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

### Site Classification

An attempt is made in this study to demonstrate an evolution in site attributes over time and establish typological criteria for dating. Although many of the sites in this study are attributed to both Navajo and Pueblo people, the Puebloan traits prior to the Gobernador Period are better documented and therefore provide a standard useful for measuring change. The most visible Puebloan contributions to the sites in this study are the masonry construction and architectural features which leave an excellent record.

The Pueblo people who were forced into a new environment and were faced with new problems, presumably exhibited fewer and fewer traditional Puebloan traits as they adapted. Therefore the earliest Refugee sites should show clear signs of traditional Puebloan influence. Later sites should demonstrate an adaptation to the local environment and responses to increased pressure from both friendly and hostile contact.

The sites of the study have been grouped into five types (Table 1) based on attributes such as topographic location, architectural features, room size, and the presence of forked-stick hogans.

#### **Type 1**

This category includes sites with square or rectangular masonry roomblocks, usually two stories high and displaying a preference by the builders for straight walls and squared-off corners (Photo 8). The sites were selected with little attention to defensive position; of the three in this category two are located on wide benches and the other on a low rise near the canyon bottom. The rooms are large, averaging nearly 100 square feet each. The outside walls

are of an unusually heavy construction with Tapacito (LA 2298) having double, coursed-masonry with rubble core on the first story. Tapacito and Hooded Fireplace (LA 5662) have Spanish-style hooded fireplaces, but Hadlock's Crow Canyon #1 (LA 55830) is not well enough preserved to determine if that particular feature was present. Stone circles, possibly hogan bases, were observed also at Tapacito and Hooded Fireplace but not at Hadlock's Crow Canyon #1.

#### **Type 2**

The smaller structures of this site type (Photo 9) are rectangular with rounded corners and masonry entryways added to better control access. The larger sites, Old Fort (LA 1869), Three Corn (LA 1871), and Frances Canyon (LA 2135), have roomblocks or clusters of rooms in which the individual rooms are usually square or rectangular but show little evidence of a preconceived plan and seem to have been built as needed. The average room size is smaller than Type 1. The small one- to two-room structures average approximately 50 square feet while the larger multi-room pueblitos average between 60 and 80 square feet per room. These sites are usually situated on a large sandstone boulder or near the edge of a mesa top or upper bench. Several of the sites feature walled compounds for additional protection and all offer a good view of likely access routes. Forked-stick hogans are associated with most of the sites of this type (17 of 21) and stone circles are found at four of those.

#### **Type 3**

Architecturally these sites (Photo 10) have either round or irregular shaped outer walls which seems another step away from the square and rectangular structures of the previous types. Forked-stick hogans are found at



PHOTO 8 : TAPACITO RUIN - LA 2298

TYPE 1 SITE



only four of the 15 sites of this type, but masonry rooms situated at the base of the pueblito boulder are also present at nine of the 15. Only three of the 13 Type 2 sites exhibit these boulder base rooms. The location of Type 3, while remaining defensive, begins to show a shift toward the selection of lower benches and canyon bottom boulders.

## Type 4

This type includes four Gobernador Period cliff dwellings which represent the ultimate in defensive advantage, but fail to conform to the other criteria for classification. Architectural features including room size were mostly determined by the shape and size of available building spaces. Forked-stick hogans are located near at least one of the sites (Unreachable Rockshelter – LA 55841), but it is impossible to establish whether or not they are contemporary.

## Type 5

The sites in this group are called "fortified mesa remnants" and exhibit few examples of Puebloan influence. Most of the masonry construction at these sites was in the form of short wall segments used to block possible access routes. Two of the sites (Prieta Mesa Site – LA 11251 and Cottonwood Divide – LA 55829) contain only forked-stick hogans and the other three have small, poorly constructed rooms scattered about the fortified area.

## Tree-Ring Dating

Tree-ring dates exist for only 17 of the 48 sites and were taken by several different people over a considerable span of time. Many of the dates have no provenience or are only mentioned as having come from the "pueblito" or the "hogan," and are entirely inadequate for dating phases of construction in the more complex sites. The best that can be hoped for is an approximate beginning date of construction and a range indicating the period of time during which modifications and repairs were made. Ten of the dated sites are located in the Largo drainage, while there were only three in the Gobernador, three in the La Jara and one in the Frances drainages.

The tree-ring dates are applied to the site types shown in Table 1. The average first date for each site type demonstrates a definite

progression from Type 1 through Type 3 (Figure 3). Tapacito is the only dated Type 1 site, but it has a good cluster of dates and was probably started in 1690, more than 20 years before the next dated pueblo in the study area. Type 2 sites have an average beginning date of 1720 and seem to have been occupied over a considerable span of time (30 or more years) possibly until the area was abandoned in the middle 1700s. Type 3 sites show an average beginning date of 1728 and like the Type 2 sites also exhibit a period of construction and maintenance lasting until the middle 1700s.

The gap indicated between Type 1 and Type 2 (Figure 3) is interpreted as a gap in tree-ring samples and not an indication of abandonment. Type 1 sites were probably occupied at least until 1715 to 1720 when construction of the Type 2 sites began. The lack of a long sequence of dates at Tapacito may be due to sampling choice or a well planned original construction phase requiring less follow-up construction and maintenance.

No tree-ring dates are available for Type 4 or Type 5 sites.

## Locational and Architectural Change

Locational preference and defensive strategies exhibit major changes between Type 1 and Type 2 sites. The earlier sites with their heavy walls probably offered a considerable amount of protection for their inhabitants but they were in generally open country along major canyons and would be easily located. When Type 2 sites began to appear around 1720 they were situated on the edge of a mesa top or bench and often on an elevated section of sandstone which offered a good view of likely access routes. Type 3 sites are found more often on lower benches and canyon bottoms, but all have at least some of the rooms perched on large sandstone boulders. Both Type 2 and 3 are usually found in or around side canyons away from the major drainages.

Architectural styles found in the three types indicate a steady progression from the heavy Puebloan influence in the early sites with their straight walls and squared corners to the small irregularly shaped rooms perched on boulders of Type 3 sites. The loss of straight walls and squared corners may be partially explained by the need to fit the structure to the desired build-

# RANGE OF TREE-RING DATES BY SITE AND TYPE

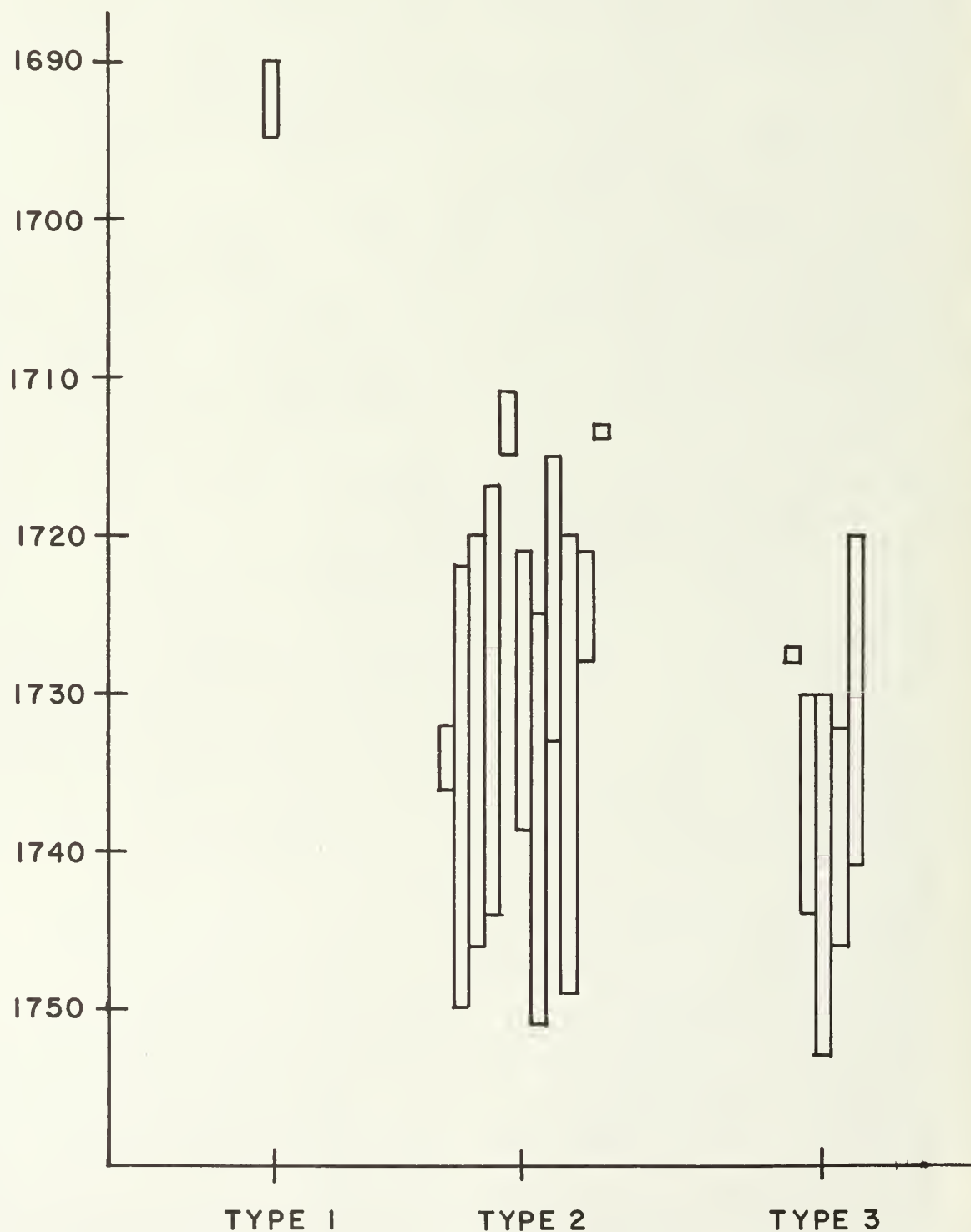


FIGURE 3



PHOTO 9 : CANYON VIEW RUIN - LA 55827

TYPE 2 SITE



ing space – a round room makes sense on the top of a round boulder. Defensive needs influenced architecture in other ways. Masonry entryways appeared on Type 2 sites and walls were built to form compounds which sometimes enclosed forked-stick hogans and the appearance of masonry rooms at the base of the Type 3 fortified boulder sites may have also been a defensive adaptation. Some other modifications were probably made for utilitarian reasons or because of changes in aesthetic values. Hooded fireplaces were used in Type 1 sites, but only show up in one site of another type (Frances Canyon Ruin – LA 2135). Other Type 2 and 3 sites had possible fireplaces but these were significantly different from the observed hooded fireplaces in Tapacito Ruin (LA 2298), Hooded Fireplace Ruin (LA 5662), and Frances Canyon Ruin (LA 2135). The hooded fireplaces in these three sites have a heavy cross-piece (approximately 10cm in diameter) which supports the hood and is grooved to accept the vertical slats. The cross-piece is set into the walls across the corner of a room approximately 60cm to 80cm above the floor. The questionable fireplaces in Type 2 and 3 sites have a smaller diameter, shorter cross-piece without a groove and are located higher above the floor (100cm or more).

## **Site Distribution**

When the study sites are plotted on a map (Figure 4) they form a rough north-south band, 10 to 15 miles wide and 40 miles long, from Navajo Reservoir in the north to Lybrook in the south. The Navajo were probably already scattered over most of this same area when the Pueblo refugees began to arrive. As small groups of Pueblo people came into the area their choice of location may have been determined by where they were permitted to settle by their Navajo hosts. Dispersion throughout the area would have depended on acceptance by the Navajo, available resources, and defensive considerations due to increasing Spanish and Ute pressure. The fact that the two earliest dated pueblitos are separated by some 25 miles, Cabresto Mesa Tower Complex (LA 2138) on La Jara Canyon in the north and Tapacito Ruin (LA 2298) on Largo Canyon in the south, could indicate settlement by two separate groups of refugees from different pueblos. Refugees from the pueblos north of Santa Fe would probably have chosen a more northern route in their flight to Navajo Country and may have entered through La Jara Canyon.

The most direct route from Jemez Pueblo in the south would have led into the upper reaches of the Largo drainage. A study of ceramics previously collected from these sites (see heading "Prior Work," under site descriptions) could furnish information as to the Pueblo origins.

The total population of the area during this time is unknown as is the number of Pueblo refugees who arrived. If one only looks at masonry structures (pueblitos) there seem to be very few before the 1720s and then they increase in number at a time when new refugees were unlikely. Ute hostilities after 1715 may be the answer for both the increase in pueblitos and a large part of the dispersion into new areas. The earliest evidence of people from the Dinétah expanding into the Chacra Mesa area is around 1720 (Brugge 1986:1). The Pueblo and Navajo people may have remained, more or less, homogeneous groups until this time when they found it mutually beneficial to combine forces and draw on Puebloan skills to construct fortified masonry (Type 2) structures.

The further spread of sites during the late 1720s and early 1730s (Type 3) may have been a move to place defensive seasonal dwellings near agricultural plots, since these sites were often located nearer the canyon bottoms than Type 2 sites. By the middle 1730s new pueblito construction seems to have been rare and available tree-ring dates indicate only additions or maintenance to existing structures.

## **Ceramics and Lithics**

Very little was done with ceramics or lithics in the study beyond trying to identify when collections were made and where they are presently located. Information concerning collections is detailed in the site descriptions under "Prior Work."

Ceramics at Gobernador Period sites are predominantly Dinétah Gray. Gobernador Polychrome is frequently present but in smaller quantities than Dinétah Gray. Occasional specimens of various Puebloan tradewares also occur. These types include pottery from Zuni, Acoma, and the Rio Grande areas. Few ceramics remain at most of these sites after being subjected to 70 years of professional and amateur collecting, but some of the accessible collections could provide valuable information on the Gobernador Period (see Suggested Research Orientations).

Lithic artifacts are also scarce at most of the sites. The most common materials are a pinkish-gray metaquartzite derived from local sources and obsidian from the Jemez area.

Grinding implements of local sandstone and quartzite also occur. Occasionally small side-notched projectile points have also been found.

**TABLE 1: SITE BY TYPE**

(Based on Selected Site Attributes)

ATTRIBUTES	SITE TYPES				
	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5
Location	Non-defensive	Defensive	Defensive	Defensive	Defensive
	Wide benches and canyon bottoms	Large boulders or near edges of mesa tops or upper benches	On boulders – from mesa tops to canyon bottoms	Canyon wall rockshelters	Isolated mesa remnants
Forked-stick hogans	Stone circles <sup>1</sup>	Yes	No	Possible	Yes
Architectural style	Rectangular square corners	Rectangular rounded corners	Round or irregular	Irregular	Round and rectangular <sup>2</sup>
Room size	100 sq ft	50-80 sq ft	60 sq ft	50 sq ft	50 sq ft
Hooded fireplaces	Yes	Possible <sup>3</sup>	Possible <sup>3</sup>	No	No
Associated sites (LA number)	2298	1684	1872	5660	11251
	5662	1869	2433	11097	55829
	55830	1871	2434	55835	55832
		2135	2435	55841	55837
		2138	5047		55838
		5657	5649		
		5659	5658		
		5664	5661		
		5665	9073		
		6287	20219		
		10732	55826		
		10733	55828		
		11100	55831		
		13218	55833		
		36608	55839		
		55824			
		55825			
		55827			
		55834			
		55836			
		55840			

<sup>1</sup>interpreted as being hogan bases, no wood remains

<sup>2</sup>few masonry structures

<sup>3</sup>if there are hooded fireplaces, the designs had changed from type 1 sites





PHOTO 10 : KIN YAZHI - LA 2433

TYPE 3 SITE

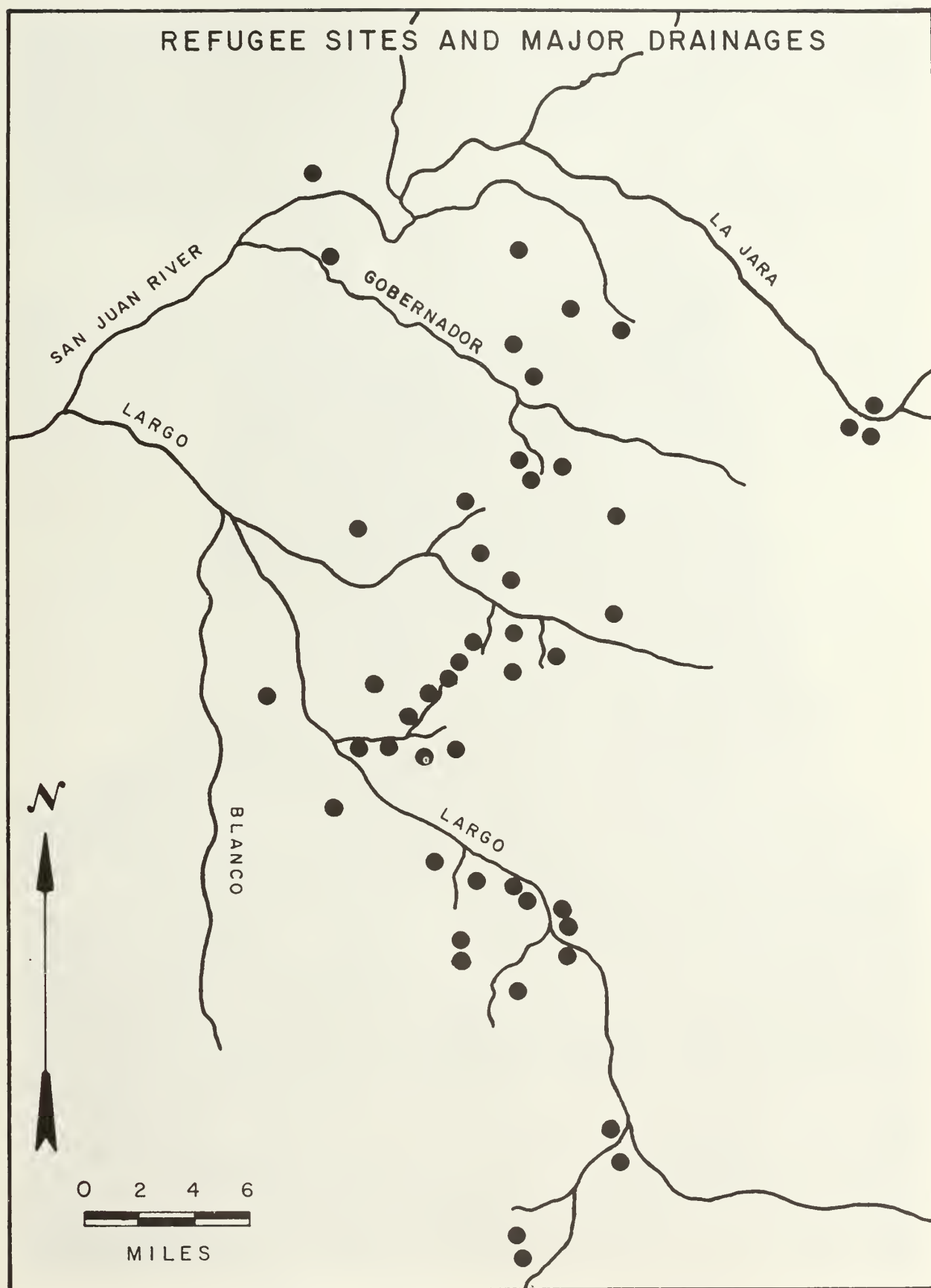


FIGURE 4





PHOTO 11 : TRUBY'S TOWER — LA 2434

## CHAPTER FOUR

# SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report was not intended to be a comprehensive examination of the Gobernador Period, but rather an attempt to gain some insight into that period through the very limited perspective offered by a specific kind of site, the pueblito. There were definite changes in the needs and preferences of the builders over time which can be recognized in the archeological record. Locations came to be selected with defense in mind and architecture evolved accordingly.

The ideal and beliefs of both the Pueblo and Navajo people were subjected to the processes of acculturation throughout this period, but probably intensified around 1720. The two cultures may have maintained, to a large extent, their separate identities until about 1720 when there was a sudden proliferation of fortified pueblitos with associated forked-stick hogans. The fortified sites began to be constructed during a time when ethnographic records indicate Ute attacks had become an overwhelming threat in northern New Mexico. Most of the pueblitos built around 1720 and in the decade after were occupied until the abandonment of the Largo-Gobernador Region in the 1750s.

### Management Concerns

The pueblitos of the Largo-Gobernador Region have been visited by non-Indians since the early 1900s; but in the last 30 years they have probably become some of the most visited, yet unprotected, archeological sites in New Mexico. The population of nearby Farmington has steadily grown and energy development since the 1950s has led to the opening of roads into literally every quarter section. Many of the pueblitos are visible from these roads and are familiar to almost anyone who works in the oilfields.

These sites are a valuable local and national resource, of interest not only for the archeological information they contain but as real objects that offer the people who visit an opportunity to see and touch another time. Any management decisions must address these interests and attempt to reach appropriate compromises.

### Vandalism

During the fall of 1985 and the spring and summer of 1986 an increase in vandalism was noted. Several of the sites visited during this study exhibited evidence of recent pothunting. Two of these sites were Three Corn (LA 1871) and Old Fort (LA 1869). In 1985 a new well pad was constructed between the two pueblitos and now Three Corn is distinctly visible from the well pad and the access road. Old Fort, while not visible because of trees, has a new two-track road running from the well pad to the pueblito. A padlocked gate has since been installed across the access and should help protect the site, although Three Corn is still visible from the gate.

The constant pressure to develop more of our energy resources makes it imperative that steps be taken to protect these fragile sites.

### Preservation

No single action except possibly the posting of armed guards would be effective in preventing vandalism, but perhaps a combination of methods could help preserve the sites. Access should be limited by keeping new roads and other development away from sites, even out of view if possible. Sites which have already been impacted because of their proximity to development would still benefit if access is limited in some way. Other methods could include the



posting of warning signs citing penalties for vandalism, a program of patrolling the sites on a regular basis, and the stabilization of fragile walls. Public education and awareness should be increased through brochures, programs at schools and through major companies involved in energy production. Companies could enhance their public image by instituting an active policy against vandalism and even help patrol sites with field personnel.

## Stabilization

With the increasing number of visitors further stabilization is required to adequately protect the Gobernador pueblitos. Work which was completed between 1973 and 1975 is impressive in its durability, its overall appearance, and its quality, but additional work is needed.

In recent years other pueblitos have been subjected to heavy visitation due to their ever increasing accessibility. Most visitors are not vandals but in time the effects of many visits begin to accumulate and the pueblito is eventually reduced to rubble. The walls which have lost most of their mortar to weathering are often nothing more than stacks of rock waiting to collapse. Stabilization, the most important step in preserving the ruins, may also be somewhat of a deterrent to vandalism. Visiting a stabilized pueblito with interpretive plaques displayed, somehow seems different and tends not to evoke the treasure hunting instincts of visitors.

Although it would not be desirable to stabilize all of the sites this obviously is not feasible. Stabilization and the required follow-up maintenance are very expensive. Therefore six pueblitos have been selected as a primary concern because they are impressive sites and are very accessible.

1. Old Fort (LA 1869)
2. Three Corn Ruin (LA 1871)
3. Gould Pass Ruin (LA 5659)
4. The Citadel (LA 55828)
5. Hill Road Ruin (LA 55833)
6. Truby's Tower (LA 2434)

Previously stabilized sites should continue to be maintained and as funds become available some of the additional sites listed above, or others which warrant attention, should be stabilized.

Sites which are not stabilized would benefit

from further recordation. Architectural features can be recorded in detail by use of the documentation programs of the National Park Service: the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and Historic American Engineering Record (HAER). HABS/HAER documentation usually consists of measured drawings, photographs, and written data that provide a detailed record which reflects a property's significance (U.S. Congress 1983). Proper documentation can provide future researchers access to valuable information that otherwise would be lost as the sites continue to deteriorate.

## Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places

The sites of this nomination are but a few of the known Gobernador Phase sites in Dinétah. Less than half of the known pueblitos were included in the current nomination and certain other types of sites are even more common. Forked-stick hogans are found in great numbers on the mesa tops and benches, while many of the sandstone boulders and canyon walls display panels of Gobernador Phase rock art.

Steps should be taken to bring as many of these sites as possible under the protection provided by the National Register. The current thematic group could be expanded to include additional pueblitos or other defensive sites. Forked-stick hogan or rock art sites could be recognized in separate nominations either individually or as thematic groups. Several types of properties of the Gobernador Phase could be incorporated into a Dinétah District nomination.

Although future National Register nominating efforts may take various forms, the Gobernador Phase sites which are afforded the protection offered by a National Register listing will benefit nonetheless.

## Suggested Research Orientations

The Dinétah region is significant for its historic archeological values and for its relationship to the development of Navajo Indian culture. Within Dinétah is archeological evidence of the earliest definable aspects of modern Navajo culture (ca. AD 1600(?) - 1780). The pueblitos and other defensive sites of Dinétah are significant

(1) for historic archeology, (2) as representatives of characteristic architectural forms built and used by Navajos during the 17th and 18th centuries, and (3) as indicators of the complex social relations among Navajos, Utes, Pueblo Indians, and Spaniards.

Pueblitos and other defensive sites have the potential to contribute to studies of (1) economics, (2) settlement and mobility strategies, (3) social organization, (4) warfare, (5) architecture, and (6) social relations of the Navajo and other contemporaneous groups during the Gobernador Phase.

## Economics

The nature of Navajo subsistence during the Gobernador Phase is unclear. Both historic and archeological sources confirm that the Navajo were practicing maize agriculture (Haskell 1975; Reeve 1958). The role of herding in the economy is a matter of controversy. Remains of domestic sheep or goat have been found in the trash midden of some pueblitos (Carlson 1965; Haskell 1975: 135, cf. Keur 1944), but Bailey and Bailey (1982) argue that herding was a marginal economic pursuit until the early 19th century.

The sheet middens of the sites considered in this nomination contain burned bones that can be studied to assess the development of herding in Dinétah.

Trading, particularly during the latter part of the Gobernador Phase, probably occurred with some frequency. The most likely trading partners for Navajo populations in Dinétah were the Puebloan and Spanish settlements along the Rio Grande. Items of Spanish manufacture and Puebloan pottery have been identified on sites of the Gobernador Phase including several included in the nomination (Carlson 1965; Hester and Shiner 1963). The frequency of these items and the kinds of artifacts present are indicators of the intensity, frequency, and nature of trade among these groups. Acquisition of trade items, horses, or sheep through raiding may also account for the presence of these kinds of artifacts in the assemblages.

Sites of the Gobernador Phase also contain preserved wooden implements that provide evidence of craft production (e.g. weaving) (Carlson 1965: 40) and economic activities (e.g. farming tools) (Keur 1944).

## Settlement and Mobility Strategies

Apparently the Navajo were relatively settled during the 17th and early 18th century. Substantial houses (hogans and pueblitos) appear for the first time during this period. Trash deposits associated with the nominated sites contain lithics and ceramic tempering materials with origins which can be traced, thereby providing evidence for local resource acquisition or for resource acquisition over a wider field of exploitation. Samples from trash deposits and from the floors of dwellings also offer the opportunity to recover pollen and preserved macrofossils that will isolate the season or seasons the sites were occupied. That pollen and macrofossils are preserved in Gobernador Phase sites is shown by excavations at the Adolfo Canyon site (Haskell 1975). Other indications of seasonality of use can be expected in the form of outdoor hearths and ramadas, which also occur on sites of this period (Haskell 1975).

## Social Organization and Demography

Pueblitos tend to be of modest size (four to six rooms). The addition of roomblocks as demonstrated by patterns of abutted walls and remodeling constitute evidence of changing social needs of the site's occupants. The likelihood of obtaining reliable construction dates from well-preserved roof beams enhances the potential interpretation of construction sequences. The timing of construction episodes parallels the changes in intrasite or intersite social groups. Substantial intervals (e.g. 15 years) between room additions may signal the maturation of offspring of the original builders. Some larger pueblitos also suggest the presence of larger or multiple kin groups. The number of hogans within the sites also is a convenient measure of both intrasite population and population concentration within the region. The juxtaposition of hogans and pueblitos may also indicate internal social divisions within the pueblo communities.

## Warfare

Hostilities between the Navajos and Spanish and later between Navajos and Utes led to the construction of defensive sites in Dinétah. Nearly all the sites in this study are situated on steep-sided boulders or mesa remnants and offer protection from attack. Access was also restricted by use of serpentine



entryways, narrowed entrances, deadend "entries," single points of access to room complexes, and removable log bridges or ladders.

The sites in this project are significant in studies of the defensive aspect of warfare. They offer the opportunity to study one set of responses to raiding, a phenomena that occurs on a world-wide basis.

## Architecture

Architecture during the Gobernador Phase encompasses two distinct types – forked-stick hogans and pueblitos. Both exhibit various changes in form and internal as well as external features. These sites offer an opportunity to study architectural responses to the changing social forces and environmental considerations of the Gobernador Period.

## Social Relations

Sites of the Gobernador Phase contain archeological data that bear on the relations among Navajos, Pueblos, Spanish, and Utes. The pueblitos and other defensive sites are signs of the hostile relations between Navajos and Spanish and between Navajos and Utes. More precise dating of the different architectural forms and analyses of Navajo strategies of site placement can reveal if Navajo responses to Ute and Spanish raids were similar. Analysis of trade items may also demonstrate during which periods peaceful relations occurred. The nature of the artifacts (religious, utilitarian, etc.) also indicates the kind of contact that occurred among the groups. More precise analysis of hogan and pueblo sites through tree-ring analysis can also be used to measure the periods of heaviest Puebloan influence and of the persistence and resurgence of traditional Navajo practices (Brugge 1972). Ceramic analysis and historic document evaluations may also help identify places of origin of the different Puebloan and Hispanic Navajo clans and their relationships to the traditional Navajo clans (Kluckhohn and Leighton 1974: 110-111).

## Other Research Considerations

### Archival Research

Information on Gobernador Phase sites can be found not only in the sites, archeologically, but also in historical records. Archival documents located in this country and in Spain would furnish additional information and help test archeological evidence.

### Tree-Ring Dating

Of the 48 sites in this project only 17 have been tree-ring dated. Many of the undated sites contain datable timbers. Some of this valuable information is lost every year as the wood continues to decay or is carried off by vandals or used for firewood.

High priority should be given to a project designed to evaluate the adequacy of existing dates and extract new samples as required. The careful selection of samples could eliminate some of the present inconsistencies and gaps in individual site chronologies. A broader data base would be established for dating architectural development.

### Ceramics

Major collections of ceramics from these and other Gobernador Phase sites are located at the University of Colorado Museum in Boulder, Colorado, (Morris collections) and with the Navajo Tribe in Window Rock, Arizona, (Navajo Land Claims). These collections were made before the sites were picked over and should offer an excellent opportunity to study Gobernador Phase ceramics. An important element of a study should be a ceramic synthesis leading to the development of a comprehensive typology for the area. Consideration should be given to distinguishing between Navajo and Pueblo Refugee attributes and variations caused by interaction.

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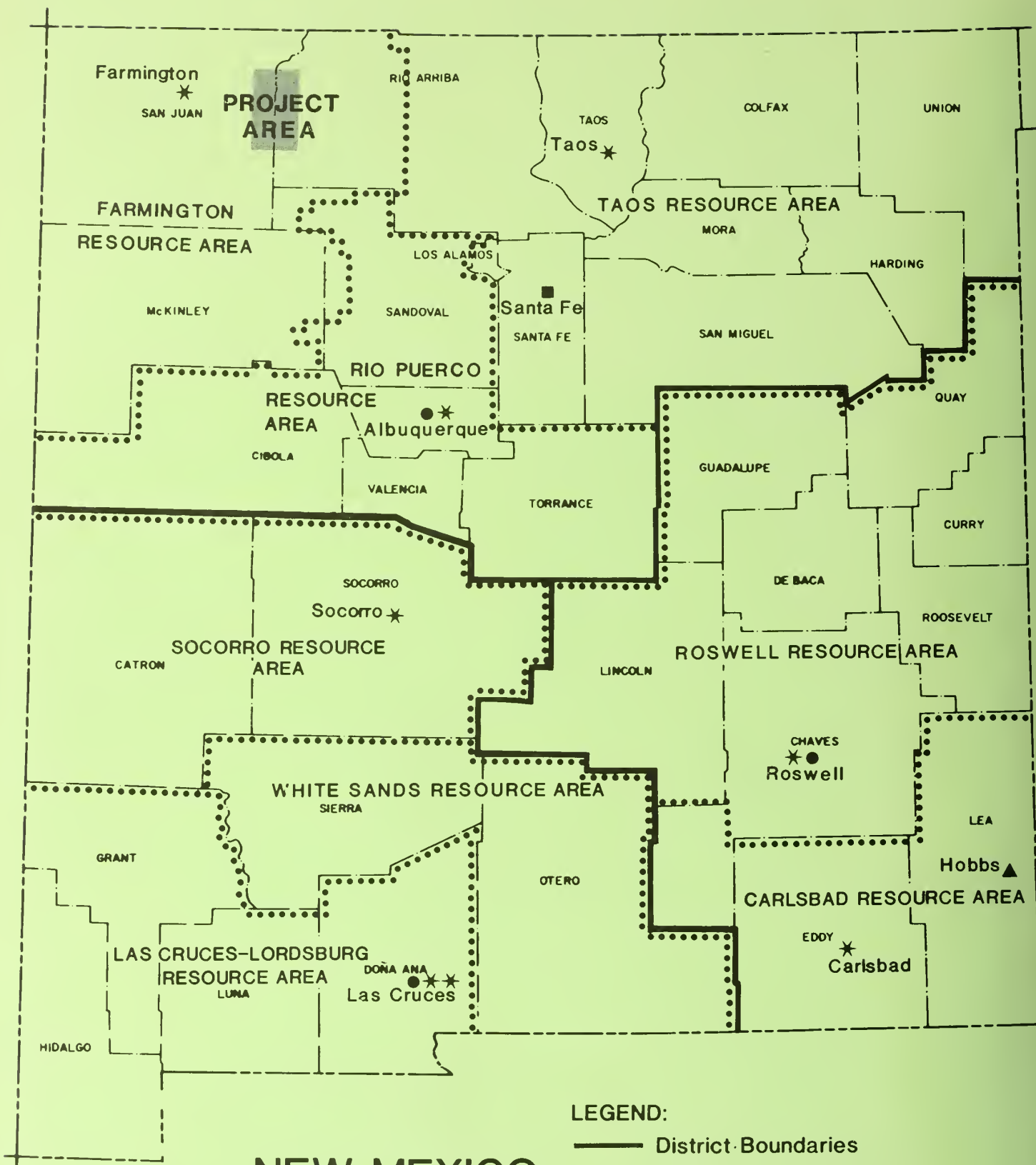
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